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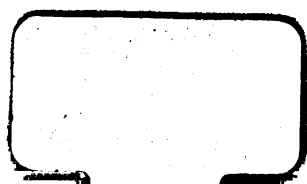
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6. 11.  
Weyt







London

Dec 14. 57.

Dear Birdett.

There is an attempt  
to have your name on the  
master poll - if this is the  
case, I venture to ask if  
you will accept as the  
authorised list of names of those  
the 1<sup>st</sup> Poll has done in  
our time.

Yours truly

J. Wyatt

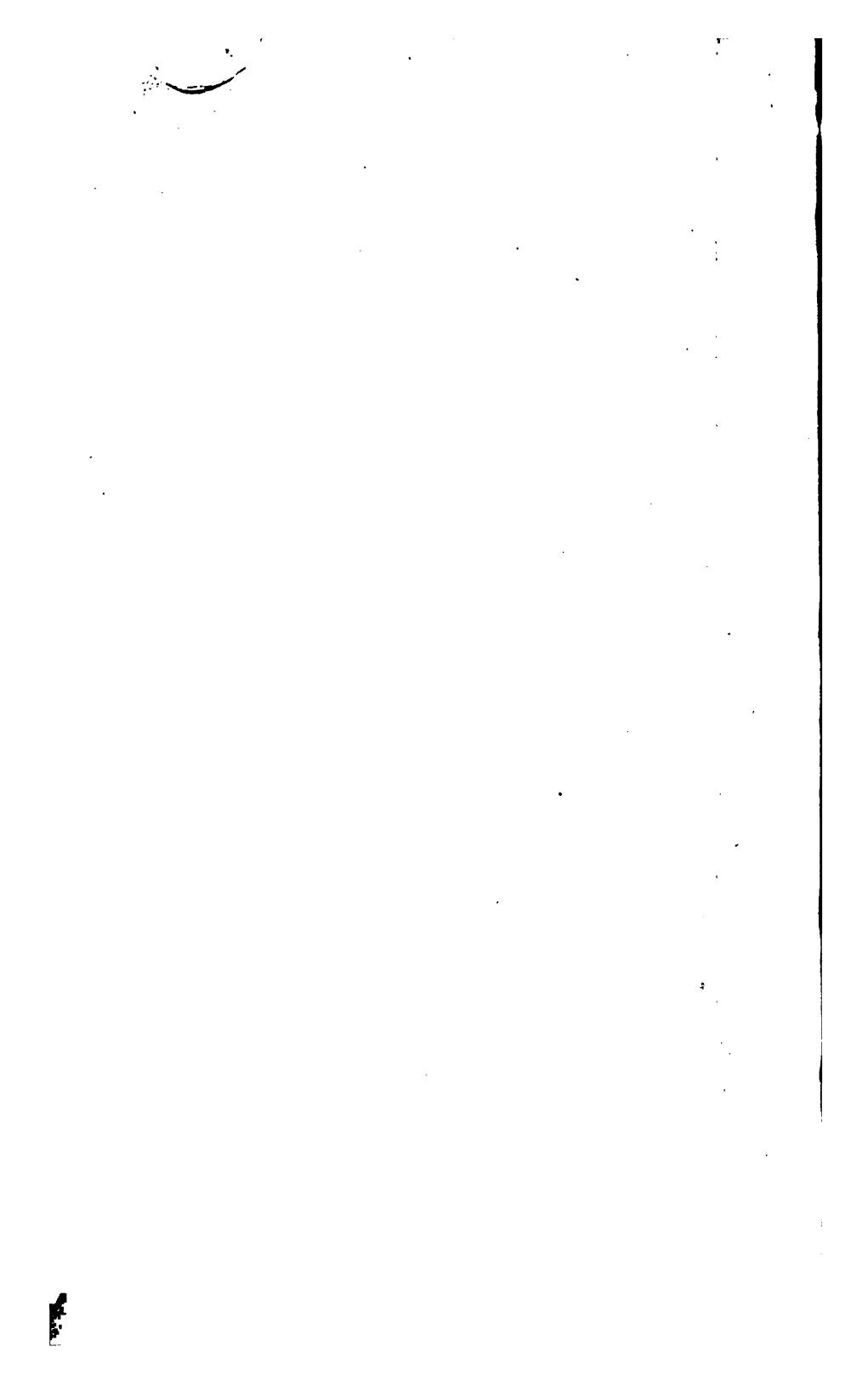
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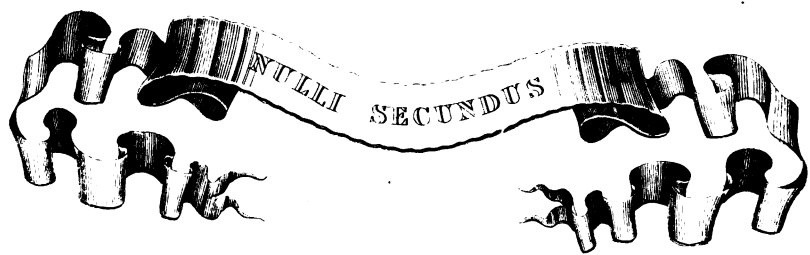




GLL  
Wyotr



G L L  
Wyatt



*Wm. Burdell*

*for the author*

**HISTORY**

*Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 1857*

OF THE

**FIRST BATTALION**

**COLDSTREAM GUARDS**

**ERRATA.**

Page 25, line 27, *for Light, read Heavy.*

„ 31, „ 4, *for Brigade Major, read late Brigade Major.*

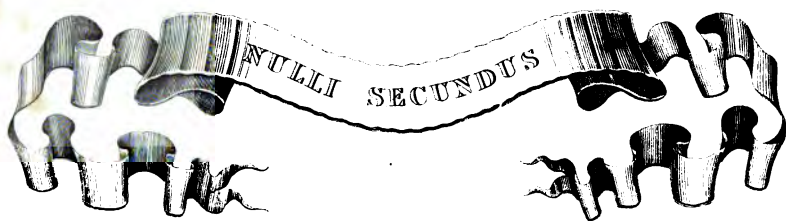
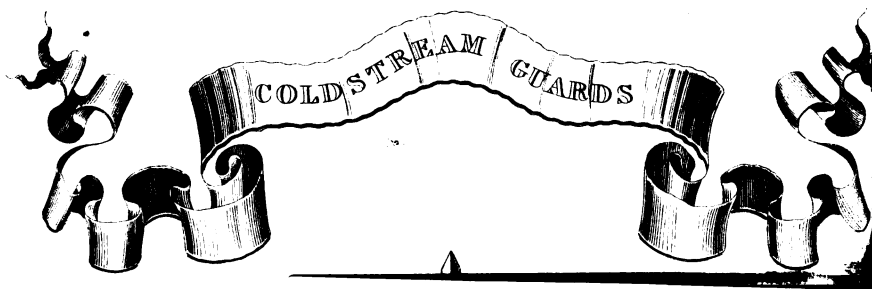
**FROM FEBRUARY, 1854 TO JUNE 1856**

**BY JOHN WYATT,**

**BATTALION SURGEON.**

12  
1858.

*YSL*



*Hyd. Muddell*  
*for the author*  
**HISTORY** *(Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 1857)*

OF THE

**FIRST BATTALION**

**COLDSTREAM GUARDS**

DURING

**The Eastern Campaign,**

**FROM FEBRUARY, 1854 TO JUNE 1856**

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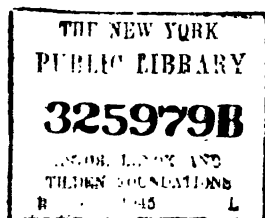
**BY JOHN WYATT,**

**BATTALION SURGEON.**

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12  
1858.

VSL



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THE FOLLOWING PAGES

ARE

DEDICATED BY PERMISSION

TO

**Field-Marshal, The Earl of Strafford,**

G.C.B., C.C.H., &c., &c.,

**COLONEL-IN-CHIEF**

OF THE

**COLDSTREAM GUARDS,**

WHOSE BENEVOLENT SOLICITUDE WAS UNCEASINGLY DISPLAYED FOR THE  
WELFARE OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED  
OF THE FIRST BATTALION.

*Presented by the Earl of Strafford*



## PREFACE.

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It is essential to state that this Record would not have appeared in its present form, had not an official communication been unexpectedly received in Dublin on the 11th of November, 1857, from the Director-General of the Army Medical Department, requesting to be supplied with a detailed History of the First Battalion of the Coldstream Guards during its service in the East, for the purpose of being embodied in the General Report then in preparation for the House of Commons.

The following memo. was also enclosed separately with the communication—"Information is particularly desired in regard of the clothing, diet, duties, number of nights in bed, shelter, cooking, water, and localities in which the Battalion was from time to time encamped: also in regard of any other circumstances,

which, in your opinion, probably proved injurious to health, such as vicinity, burying-grounds, &c."

In compliance with the request of the Director-General, and with the sanction of the officer commanding the Regiment, Mr. Wyatt at once undertook to collect from different available sources the necessary details for the purpose of compiling the History of the Battalion of which he had been the senior Medical Officer, during nearly the whole period of active service in the Crimea: and having kept a private daily journal of events connected with his department, he did not labour under the same difficulty as would have occurred, had such a means of reference not been at hand: still as it was necessary to be exceedingly exact in every statement recorded, he availed himself of the official records so promptly placed at his disposal by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, to whom his best acknowledgments are tendered.

After a considerable amount of labour, the following pages were forwarded to the Army Medical Department: but as the Report exceeded the space which subsequently to its reception in London the

Director-General stated could be allowed for it, a considerable portion was required to be abridged, and the original, therefore, with some trifling alterations has been published by the Author, which he trusts may not be deemed unworthy of perusal by those interested in the services of the Regiment.

*Torquay,*

*March 25th, 1858.*

Colonel HAY, in Command.

„ CODRINGTON. }  
„ G. DRUMMOND. } Majors.

\*Lieut. Col. NEWTON.

„ „ Hon. V. DAWSON.

„ „ TIERNEY.

„ „ CROMBIE.

„ „ CUMMING.

\*Captain COCKS.

„ COWELL.

„ MACKINNON.

„ WILSON.

\* „ DAWKINS.

„ JOLLIFFE,

\* „ Hon. A. HARDINGE.

\* „ Hon. P. B. I. FEILD-  
ING, (Adjutant.)

\* „ CHAS. BARING.

„ BOUVERIE.

Captain Hon. G. ELIOT,

„ CUST.

\* „ ARMYTAGE.

\* „ Hon. H. BYNG, A.D.C.,  
to Brigadier General Bentinck.

\*Lieut. THELLUSSON.

\* „ CRAWLEY.

„ Sir JAS. DUNLOP, Bart.

\* „ GOODLAKE.

\* „ Lord BINGHAM.

„ RAMSDEN.

\* „ TOWER.

„ Hon. H. DRUMMOND.

„ WINDHAM.

Battalion Surgeon SKELTON.

Assistant Surgeon WILDBORE.

\* „ „ WYATT.

\*Quarter-Master FALCONER.

\* Indicates the Officers who are still serving.

## COLDSTREAM GUARDS.

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THE First Battalion of this Regiment, after having served at home since 1818, when it returned from the Netherlands, embarked at Southampton on the 22nd February, 1854, in the Steam-ship "Orinoco," for Malta. It was quartered in London when ordered on Foreign Service, and left the Metropolis, for Chichester, where the 2nd Battalion was then stationed, three days prior to embarkation. Each Battalion had been quartered for a month during the previous summer at the Chobham Camp.

The Brigade consisted of the 3rd Battalion of Grenadier, 1st Battalion of Coldstream, and 1st Battalion of Scots Fusilier Guards, and was commanded by Brigadier General Bentinck.

The strength of the Battalion, on embarkation, was 35 officers (whose names are enumerated in the opposite page), 919 men, and 32 women, the average age of the men being 29 years, and their average service seven years. A most careful inspection had previously been made by the medical officers in order

to transfer to the 2nd Battalion any soldiers not considered likely to be able to undergo the probable hardships of active service.

For the purpose of arriving at certain conclusions, medical and statistical, connected with the service of the 1st Battalion in the East, it will be desirable to divide the whole period into seven distinct portions, the first commencing with the embarkation of the Battalion at Southampton, and terminating with its departure from Varna for Aladyn;—the second, embracing the entire subsequent period of its sojourn in Bulgaria;—the third, commencing with the embarkation for the Crimea, and terminating at the end of October, 1854;—the fourth, comprising the winter of 1854-5, and ending with the arrival of the Battalion at Balaklava from the plateau before Sebastopol, in February, 1855;—the fifth, being the time which the Battalion spent at Balaklava;—the sixth, commencing with its second arrival on the plateau, and terminating at the end of the year 1855;—and the seventh, completing the remaining portion of its service in the East, and terminating with the disembarkation at Portsmouth, on the 28th of June 1856.

After a prosperous voyage of ten days the Battalion arrived at Malta, and was quartered in two divisions, at Fort Manoel and the Lazaretto, which had been vacated for its occupation: with the exception of one slight accident, there had been no medical occurrence worthy of record on the voyage.

During their sojourn of seven weeks at Malta, the men were occupied as in an ordinary garrison, with



drills, parades, and ball practice, under the superintendence of a staff inspector of musketry. The health of the Battalion was good, but two men died; one, a drummer, of typhoid pneumonia, and the other, of abscess of the liver, after forty days' illness.

On the 21st of April, the Battalion embarked in Her Majesty's steam sloop "Vulcan," and disembarked at Scutari on the 29th, when it was placed under tents, on a slight elevation, picturesquely situated in the rear of the large barracks and General Hospital, and overlooking the Sea of Marmora. Provisions of all kinds were plentiful, the supply of water abundant, and its quality excellent. The health of the Battalion, during the six weeks it remained at this station, continued unexceptionable, notwithstanding the occasional excessive heat at times experienced, the thermometer frequently indicating 104 degrees Fahrenheit in the bell-tents. These were the ordinary bell-tents of the service, and each was occupied by fourteen men. On the 31st of May, the Battalion was reviewed by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan.

The baggage animals were usually purchased at the bazaars of Constantinople, and His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Commanding the 1st Division,\* ordered occasional parades of them, so as to accustom both officers and men to become expert in the best method of packing and transporting tents and camp

\* The 1st Division was formed by the Brigade of Guards, and Highland Brigade, the latter being commanded by Brigadier General Sir Colin Campbell.

baggage ; this was found afterwards, to have been a very wise precaution.

The sick were at first treated in one of the wards of the Barrack Hospital, but, subsequently, the Brigadier advised the Surgeon to assimilate every medical arrangement as much as possible to those of field service, and to employ the hospital marquee, which was accordingly done. A representation was also made respecting the injurious effects likely to be produced by the men continuing to wear the stiff regulation stock, and it was ordered to be discontinued.

On the 13th of June, the Battalion embarked in the "Andes" Steam-transport, for Varna, where it disembarked on the following afternoon, having left sixteen men in the General Hospital at Scutari : and encamped on a plain about one mile outside the fortifications of Varna, in the vicinity of a lake on the Shumla Road, and here it remained till the end of the month. Several divisions of the French and Turkish armies were encamped in the neighbourhood, a large portion of the former having taken up a position on an elevated plateau to the northward of the town.

Here for the first time, a scarcity of vegetables was experienced, caused chiefly by the French having arrived previously, and made their usual arrangements for procuring the limited supplies afforded by the neighbouring country. Owing to the large masses of troops occupying the town, and immediate vicinity of Varna, sanitary arrangements could not be effectually maintained ; this fact, combined with the excessive heat

and the insufficient protection afforded by the single canvas tents, soon caused a deterioration of the previous good health of the men, the number of the sick being now in excess over that of any former similar period since leaving England.

On the 1st of July, the first march into the country was made, the Division proceeding to Aladyn, a distance of about eight English miles. This terminates the first period of the Battalion's service, during which its mean average strength on service was 31 officers and 920 men; the number of men actually present in the field being 913, and the total number of primary admissions into Hospital amounting to 5·7 per cent. of the strength present.

Before vacating the encampment at Varna, the more serious cases were transferred to the General Hospital in the town, and were placed under the charge of a staff medical officer. The march was commenced at four A.M., and by four P.M. the new encampment was completely formed in what appeared a sufficiently eligible situation, the men were comfortably eating their rations, which had been cooked the day previously, and served out to them on the morning before the march; the heat was excessive, and 42 men fell out of the ranks from fatigue, who afterwards came up with the rear guard. The Light Division had marched from Aladyn some days previously, but entirely fresh ground was selected for the occupation of the 1st Division, at a little distance from that recently vacated; the position of the Guards' camp was most picturesque, and the surrounding scenery

quite park-like, with clusters of fine trees dispersed at intervals, often combining to form a tract of forest. On account of the outbreak of disease which took place here, it is desirable that the topographical position of this encampment should be accurately described.

From Cape Kalagria, in the Black Sea, a range of mountains commences, and runs in a westerly direction nearly as far as the Village of Devna, then turns to the southward, and joins the high lands which are situated to the south of the Devna lakes, a small interval only intervening through which flows the Devna river. From Varna to Aladyn the road gradually ascended in a westerly direction through tracts of cultivated land, and then took a north west direction to Yeni Bazaar. The encampment of the 1st Division was formed upon some rough, uneven ground, situated at a considerable elevation above the lake of Devna; from which it was separated by the high road, running from Varna to Pravadi. The immediate encampment was almost shut in on the East and West by dense belts of thick brushwood, consisting of stunted oak and the acacia bush; while towards the North a large tract of sandy plain intervened between it and the Village of Kutchouk Sumbey; to the south, several large and irregular masses of limestone rock shut out the view of the lake; and deep ravines, thickly wooded with alder, elm, and oak trees, cut off the camp from that of the 2nd Division which was situated about two miles further to the westward, on an elevated and barren plateau. The soil of the encampment of

the Brigade of Guards was of an alluvial character, and the edges of the lake at no great distance were much encroached upon by tracts of marshy land, upon which the common rush grew luxuriantly; the water of the lake was dark and muddy, but the springs by the roadside in the neighbourhood abounded with clear and wholesome water. The tents were pitched in section distances, and both men and officers immediately began to construct arbours with the branches and foliage of the trees, so as to obtain some greater amount of protection than the thin tents afforded from the intense heat of the sun; this custom, which appeared so harmless and agreeable, is believed to have been one of the aids to the impending outbreak of the disease which first attacked the Brigade at this spot.

Two days after arrival there, a terrific thunder-storm ensued, during which the thermometer fell in two hours from 92 to 78 degrees Fahrenheit, the whole encampment was completely deluged with rain, and the men were occupied during nearly the whole of the following night in drying their clothes by the aid of large fires. After a few days they were exercised frequently at ball practice, and in Field evolutions in heavy marching order; the heat was often overpowering, and the Battalion sometimes did not return to camp till 10 o'clock A.M., when the men, oppressed and exhausted, could not always be restrained from drinking the muddy water of the Lake, and subsequently lying down without their coats in the shade of the recently constructed arbours. A bazaar was estab-

lished, under the superintendence of the Camp police, and supplied by a German sutler, who undertook to sell pure and unadulterated liquors and food at a fixed tariff; but there is reason to believe that all supervision was frequently evaded, and that deleterious spirits, wine, and unripe fruits, were surreptitiously sold at a cheap rate to the men, who being often unable to eat their rations, would connive at any subterfuge to procure stimulating liquors.

A medical officer of the day was appointed for the Brigade, whose duty it was to inspect the Camp for sanitary purposes, and also the supplies at the Canteens. The Commander-in-chief issued an order that no field days should take place after 8 o'clock A.M., or before four o'clock P.M., as the number of sick was greatly increasing, and fevers, with severe cerebral complications were frequent, while several cases of *coup de soleil* had occurred—the most serious being that of the Aid-de-camp to the Brigadier, who nearly lost his life, and during the remainder of his short service in Bulgaria did not recover from the effects; he\* was soon after invalided home. The rations issued were as follows:—For each man daily, bread  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., or biscuit 1 lb., fresh or salt meat 1 lb., coffee 1 oz., or tea  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz., sugar  $1\frac{3}{4}$  oz. On the 15th of July, as the sickness continued to augment, the Brigadier extended the space over which each Battalion was encamped, so as to allow of a freer circulation of air; but, notwithstanding this, on the 18th, the sick list was still greater, and there were on that day forty-three men in the

\* Captain the Honble. H. Byng.

Hospital marquees; while on the same evening the first case of Cholera appeared, and on the following day the numbers sick were fifty-three. On the 20th the first draft arrived from England in Her Majesty's ship "Vulcan" (having disembarked at Varna on the previous day). It consisted of ten officers and 149 men, under the command of Col. The Honble. George Upton; and with Assistant Surgeon Trotter, in medical charge; the average age of the men was  $21\frac{3}{4}$  years, and their service  $1\frac{11}{12}$  years; four of them had been transferred to the General Hospital at Scutari in passing. On the receipt of this reinforcement, five officers were ordered home to join the 2nd Battalion,\* in consequence of the changes effected in the Regiment by the brevet of the 20th ultimo: which promoted both Colonel Hay and Colonel Codrington to the rank of Major-General.

The sickness now continued to increase to such an alarming extent, that his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge issued the following considerate Divisional Order on the 21st:—

"When a fresh supply of wine is brought to any Regimental Canteen, the Lieutenant-General commanding desires, that the non-commissioned officer in charge will prevent it being placed in the canteen, or issued to the men till the medical officer of the day for the Brigade shall have inspected and approved of it, for the purpose of doing which the non-commissioned officer will send for him."

\* The officers ordered home, were Colonel Gordon Drummond, (to command the 2nd Battalion) Col. Newton, Captains Halkett, Cowell, and Thelluson.

At the approach of evening, emanations from the Lake were often visible, and on several occasions, after hot and dry sirocco winds had prevailed during the day, assumed the character of a dense mist, obscuring the outlines of the hills; during the latter part of the month there was a peculiar faint smell more especially noticed at night, evidently occasioned by the decomposing vegetation, which formed the bowers and arbours, and which became so offensive after the Brigade left, that the medical officer then caused them to be burnt forthwith. Under the combination of circumstances here described, it is scarcely remarkable that the men should have become predisposed to disease, and it may be observed, that the number of men sick on arrival at Aladyn, including those transferred to the General Hospital at Varna, was 16; whereas during the month of July at this encampment, 186 were admitted into the Hospital, or 20·13 per cent. of the strength of the Battalion. As an example of the character of the exhalations proceeding from the lake of Devna, it may be stated, that towards evening they sometimes became so dense, that people coming from Varna towards Aladyn by the lake road, frequently had the whole encampment obscured from view until they had almost reached the tents.

On the 27th it was considered desirable to remove the whole Camp to an elevated plateau, about three miles to the north-west, near the village of Geuvrekói: all the sick who could be removed with any degree of safety, followed the Battalion the next day, while the more serious cases of Cholera and Fever



were left with others in a similar state from the Grenadier and Scots Fusilier Guards, to constitute a detached Brigade Hospital encampment, under the care of Assistant Surgeon Wyatt; an officer of the Coldstream Guards,\* dangerously ill with acute Dysentery, also remained with the sick detachment.

One Company of the Battalion with two officers, was ordered to form a guard; but was withdrawn to Head-Quarters subsequently, and a corporal, with ten men, substituted a few days afterwards; so much annoyance from the natives, however, was experienced at night, that two officers with fifty men were ordered back again. On the 31st the following Divisional Order appeared:—

“The Tents will be struck this afternoon, and remain down for two hours, if the weather be fine, and the Lieutenant-General requests that they may be struck at least twice in each week, for two hours at a time.”

On the 4th of August the survivors at the Brigade Detachment Hospital, with the sick officer, were considered capable of undertaking a slow journey to Head-Quarters, which was performed in the country arabas, some branches of trees having been contrived to form a shelter over them on the journey. The new encampment was quite destitute of surrounding brushwood, and from its elevated situation and excellent water it was hoped that the outbreak of sickness would subside; no such result, however, followed, for, during the period of its sojourn here, although every precaution was taken to expose the men as little as

Lieut. Col. Crombie

possible during the heat of the day, Cholera attacked the Battalion in a most virulent form, and during the three weeks it remained there, swept off twenty-five men, many of whom were completely struck down with the disease, and died in a few hours. Amongst them were two of the men who had been removed to Aladyn, in a partially convalescent state. Cholera belts were first issued to the Battalion on the 2nd of August, in accordance with the following Divisional Order:—

“A supply of Cholera belts having been received at the Divisional Medical Stores in Camp, they will be issued to Medical Officers in charge of Corps, in the proportion of 450 to each Regiment, and 80 to each Battery of Artillery, to be distributed to weakly men, and those having a tendency to diarrhœa. When a further supply, expected from England, arrives, the issue will be continued to one for every man.”

It is worthy of observation, that in the majority of fatal cases Diarrhœa had pre-existed, although often to a slight extent; but this latter disease was also very prevalent, and the Highland Brigade of the Division which had enjoyed a comparative immunity from disease at Aladyn, was here attacked with the same virulence as the Guards.

The men were employed daily in making gabions, and fascines in the adjoining wood, which were forwarded to Varna, and on the 2nd of August they were instructed in throwing up field-works. While at this encampment several of the officers became affected with Fever and Dysentery, and were sent on board ship.

On the 16th of August, at 6 A.M the Battalion,

with the rest of the Division commenced the march (which occupied three days), in light marching order, to the vicinity of the Adrianople Road, where it encamped on a sandy plateau, above the bay, about two miles to the south of Varna; the men's knapsacks being carried there by the country waggons, called arabas. Twenty-two of the sick were left behind at Geuvrekói, in charge of a staff medical officer; and seventy-four of the slighter cases were removed with the Battalion by the ambulance waggons and arabas.

Fresh eggs, milk, honey, and fruit were supplied from the native villages, and precautions were taken that none of the latter, in an unripe state, should be exposed for sale. Porter was occasionally brought from Varna, and sold to the men both at Aladyn and Geuvrekói, but not with sufficient regularity to be considered as a component part of the daily rations.

Thirty-six barrels were thus consumed, but the men generally preferring rum, a gill was first issued to them as a ration on the 30th of July, which was reduced to half a gill on the following day. Excellent spring water could always be obtained in the vicinity of the encampments. The Battalion remained in this spot for three days, and then embarked for the Crimea; the men still suffered very much from Diarrhoea, and four deaths occurred, two of which were from Cholera. On the 23rd, eleven men of those left behind sick at Geuvrekói, joined the Battalion, seven having in the mean time died, and four still remained there.

At Aladyn fourteen men occupied each bell-tent, as

at Scutari, while at Geuvrekói the number was increased to fifteen. Abundance of fresh meat was supplied at all the encampments; but the men frequently complained of its being very insipid when cooked, on account of the want of salt. On the 19th of July two ounces of rice, or Scotch barley, were supplied to each man. On the 1st of August the daily ration of meat was increased to one pound and a-half, and at the Adrianople road encampment, prior to embarkation, salt meat was issued for three days.

Many of the men were depressed in spirits during the state of inaction at Geuvrekói, on account of the sudden deaths of their comrades, added to the uncertainty of the period when preparations for active service would commence; but after arriving at the encampment above Varna, they became much more cheerful, partly owing to the invigorating effect of the sea breezes, but chiefly, it is presumed, to the more exciting prospect of the preparations for the embarkation of troops and the removal of any further suspense as to the chances of meeting the enemy. As evidences of the vigilance and anxiety always evinced by His Royal Highness for the health of his Division the following orders were circulated during the month :—

*“ August 7.—1. The Lieutenant-General Commanding has learnt with extreme surprise that there has been a deficiency of the regular daily ration to the men without his having been informed of it. His Royal Highness therefore desires that Mr. Assistant Commissary-General Strickland will report to him personally every time he is unable to issue to the*

whole Division, at the proper hour, the full amount of each ration ordered by the Commander of the Forces, in order that he may ascertain by whose neglect the soldier is deprived of what is considered necessary for his health and comfort.

“2. The Lieutenant-General Commanding desires that none of the Sugar condemned by the Board which sat this morning is to be issued to the troops from the Commissariat Store, and any of which may be unconsumed of yesterday's issue is to be changed.

“*August 9.*—The Commissary of the Division will issue straw for the use of the men in Hospital immediately; Surgeons of Regiments will send requisitions for the amount required.

“3. A Board, composed of the three senior officers present, will assemble immediately, to examine and report upon a sheep issued to the Regiment as part of to-day's rations.”

With the departure of the Battalion from this last station, the second portion of its service in the East terminates. It occupied the different encampments in Bulgaria for a period of seventy-five days, during which time the mean strength on service was 35 officers and 987 men, the mean strength actually present in the field being 29 officers, and 944 men, while the total number of primary admissions exclusive of officers, was 505 or 26·7 per month of the strength present, and the number of deaths in the Regimental Hospital 57, of which 28 were from Cholera, and 25 from Typhus Fever. The chief mortality occurred

amongst the men of the draft which had recently arrived from England; several of the officers became affected with the prevailing diseases, two of whom died, both having lately arrived in the East,\* and six others were invalided; amongst the latter were two of the medical officers, one of whom, Assistant-Surgeon Wildbore, was subsequently sent to England from the General Hospital at Scutari, and the other, Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt, having been sent on board ship from Geuvrekói, returned to join the Battalion prior to its embarkation for the Crimea.

On the 29th of August the Battalion (with a strength of 26 officers and 737 men) embarked in two divisions, the left wing and head-quarters on board the Steam-transport "Tonning," and the right in H. M. Steam-ship "Simoon," with the Grenadier Guards. From this latter ship, to prevent undue crowding, two Companies (under the command of Col. Lord Frederick Paulet), were subsequently detached on the following day to H. M. Steam-ship "Vengeance," where they remained until the 4th September, when they were removed to H. M. Ship "Bellerophon." The whole of the sick, eighty-nine in number, and thirty convalescents, were left at the Camp Hospital, under the medical charge of Assistant-Surgeon Trotter, who remained in that position till the end of the month, when the whole of the tents being blown

\* Col. Trevelyan died of Cholera in camp on the 21st of August, 1854; and Col. the Honble. R. Boyle died of fever, on the 2nd of September, on board H. M. S. "Vengeance," in the bay of Varna.

down, the sick were ordered to be transferred to the general Hospital at Varna, and subsequently to Scutari, to both of which Mr. Trotter was attached consecutively to do duty, till the 9th of October, when he was ordered to rejoin the Battalion in the Crimea.

A Brigade detachment consisting of one captain, four serjeants, and 130 rank and file, selected as far as possible from convalescents and men unfit for active service, were ordered to take charge of the Hospitals, and horses left behind; and a Captain of the Coldstream Guards,\* who had previously suffered from Remittent Fever, was selected to take the command. Seventeen women were also left behind until a passage could be provided for them to England. The Hospital pony, to carry the panniers, was embarked, but the following order was issued:—

“The Officers may take their tents and baggage with them, but not their bât horses; the tents of the men will also be embarked; the Commissary of the Division will make arrangements for provisioning the men and horses remaining behind. A medical officer from each Battalion will remain in charge of the sick.”

The medical staff which accompanied the Battalion, consisted of Battalion Surgeon Skelton, Assistant Surgeon Wyatt, and a Staff-Surgeon (temporarily attached).

At 7 A.M. on the 7th of September, the fleet and transports at last weighed anchor and proceeded to sea, the French fleet being well in the offing before the

\* Captain Mackinnon.

English started. On the 9th the allied fleets were in company, and anchored at six o'clock about forty miles from land. There were several delays on the voyage, to enable the different divisions of transports to keep up with the main body of the ships. On the 11th the fleet weighed anchor at noon, continued the voyage till the 12th, and at 7 P.M. anchored four miles from shore. The ships again started next morning at 8 o'clock, and at 5 P.M. anchored off Eupatoria ; and on the following day at half-past 4, were again in motion until 8, when they ran in till about two miles distant from the land, and commenced to disembark the troops.

The Brigade of Guards commenced disembarking soon after 10 o'clock, and landed on a narrow beach of sand, which divided the sea from the Salt lake of "Kamishli," remaining there in formation till three o'clock, when they marched inland, over an undulating plain, partly cultivated, and halted for the night on a spot which appeared to have been formerly under cultivation. During the few days the Battalion passed at sea, the general state of the men's health became much improved, and their aspect far more satisfactory ; so much was this the case on board Her Majesty's ship "Bellerophon," that the officer commanding\* signalled to the Admiral to that effect during the latter part of the voyage ; the unavoidable delay in the transit having had a very beneficial influence in rendering the men in a better condition to take the field. The greater part of the women re-

\* Captain Lord George Paulet.



mained at the camp with the sick, but some few were allowed to proceed in the different ships with the Battalion, and were left on board when the landing was effected. On the next day they were all sent to Her Majesty's ship "Simoon," with eight sick, who were unable to proceed.

With the exception of the two Companies from the "Bellerophon," the men of the Battalion landed without their knapsacks, each officer and man carrying with him three days' provisions, previously cooked, his canteen filled with water, and his blanket and great-coat, rolled up together, on his back. Upon this subject the following General Order was issued, dated Lake Tooza, September 15th:—

"No. 6. Referring to the memorandum recently issued, specifying the articles to be carried by the soldiers of this army on their disembarkation, the Commander of the Forces permits the men furnished with knapsacks, from which the straps cannot be detached, to carry the same articles, but no more, in their knapsacks, leaving in store all the other articles of their kit, properly packed and labelled.

(Signed)

"J. B. Estcourt, Adjutant-General."

After arrival at the bivouac it rained heavily all night. No tents were landed for the use of the Battalion, but on the 16th, some few were obtained, and distributed amongst the officers and men; but these were ordered to be given up and returned on board ship two days afterwards, only one being retained for

the use of the sick on the line of march, which was carried between the panniers on the hospital bāt-horse.

On the 17th a man was seized with Cholera, and died in a few hours. About midnight on the 18th the Battalion was turned out with a part of the Brigade to repel an imaginary attack of the Cossacks. At 6 A.M. on the 19th the onward march commenced, and in the morning biscuits and tea were served out to the men previously to their moving off the ground, many of them fell out from fatigue as the weather was very sultry. The daily ration of meat was now reduced to one pound. The Battalion halted at the Bulganac, where it bivouacked for the night, and the next morning, at 5 A.M., the march was continued towards the Alma River, in front of which it arrived shortly after mid-day.

During the action which ensued, the men were not exposed so much as those of the Grenadier or Fusilier Guards, on account of the crest of a hill, on the opposite side of the river, which somewhat protected them, and, consequently, they suffered less from the fire of the enemy; subsequently, when within about 200 yards of the Russian entrenchment, the Coldstream Guards opened their fire with great effect, continuing to advance at the same time. The casualties were two officers and twenty-six men wounded, most of which were slight cases. One of the officers and one man underwent amputation at the shoulder-joint, both of whom are now living. The second officer\*

\* Captain Cust, A. D. C.

lost a great deal of blood on the field, from the femoral artery which had been ruptured by a round shot. The injury was complicated with comminuted fracture extending into the knee-joint, and rendered amputation of the limb necessary. A ligature had been placed on the protruded artery by a medical officer of another Regiment, who found him lying on the field. But he sank shortly after the amputation was performed, although a considerable time was allowed to elapse after the receipt of the injury, to enable the constitution to recover from the primary shock it had sustained.

A Field Hospital bivouac was speedily formed, by the side of a bank, intervening between a vineyard and the river, which, for a good and constant supply of water, was a most desirable situation. Here the bell-tent was pitched; but before that could be arranged, it was necessary to operate on the officer\* wounded in the shoulder, which was done while he was partially under the influence of chloroform, and seated on one of the hospital panniers, in the open air.

The whole of the sick and wounded, twenty-nine in number, were removed on board ship by the sailors of the fleet, at noon, on the following day. After the action was over, and the enemy routed, the Battalion with the rest of the Division, advanced to some high ground about two miles from the field of battle, where for the two ensuing days, a fatigue party of two officers, and fifty men were employed in burying the dead, and assisting to remove the wounded Russians to the building and yard at the village of Burliuk, ap-

\* Captain C. Baring.

propriated to the uses of a General Hospital. At seven o'clock on the morning of the 23rd, the Division continued its course in the direction of Sebastopol, and encamped, after a few hours' march, on some high ground beyond the Katcha river, in the neighbourhood of which were several gardens and vineyards abounding with fruit, of which the men could not be restrained from partaking with great avidity. On the following day at 10 A.M., the route was continued to near the Belbec river; the encampment for the night being formed just outside the village, the houses of which appeared to have been vacated with great precipitancy; soon after arriving here, the Council of War decided upon the flank march to the south side of Sebastopol: which was on the next day performed. An order had been issued that the men should cook their dinners before starting, which, since the Alma, they had done at each encampment.

The Brigade took a circuitous route through the dense oak wood, leading to the Mackenzie Heights, and finally descended to bivouac for the night at the village of Tchorgoun, on the Tchernaya (or black river). The position, after several halts, was not reached till nearly 10 o'clock at night, when both officers and men were completely exhausted, parched with thirst, and their clothes much torn by struggling through the wood. The water here was exceedingly thick and brackish, but as no better was obtainable, it was drank, and no apparent ill effects followed. At 7.30 A.M. on the following morning, September 26th,

the army again marched onwards, previous to which the following General Order was issued :—

“Medical officers in charge of Regiments will send to the Principal Medical Officer daily, as soon after daybreak as possible, returns of men unable to march for whom conveyance is required.”

After three hours' march, the Battalion encamped upon the plain just outside the town of Balaklava, near the village of Kadekoi. The gardens, which were said to be one of the sources of supply for the inhabitants of Sebastopol, were most carefully cultivated, and there is little doubt that the freedom with which the men partook of the fruit during the period they were encamped in this locality tended materially to predispose to the increase of Diarrhœa which ensued. The encampment was moved about one mile next day, and for a similar distance on the 30th, when two of the men were attacked with Cholera, one of whom died. A couple of additional bell-tents were now procured from the Quartermaster General's Department, after an earnest representation made by the Surgeon to the Commanding Officer.

On the 2nd of October the Brigade marched to the plateau before Sebastopol, and occupied an elevated and dry position to the extreme right of the allied army, in rear of the Light Division. The sick were left at the General Hospital, which had been established at Balaklava, and twenty-five weakly men, who, with a similar number from the other two Battalions, were also left in the town, to form a Brigade detachment for the purpose of taking charge

of stores about to arrive, and to perform other light duties; two officers from the Grenadier Guards were ordered to remain with these men. During the month of September the Battalion was perpetually in movement, and seventy-six cases of sickness occurred, of which thirty were Fever, twenty-four Diarrhœa, and seven Cholera; twenty-eight of the total number of cases treated were trivial affections, and soon sent to their duty: thirty-five were sent on board Ship at the different available opportunities, and twelve were transferred to the General Hospital at Balaklava.

From the date of arrival of the Battalion on the plateau before Sebastopol until the opening of the bombardment on the 17th of October, (on which day nine officers arrived from England,) the men were employed in covering and working parties for the trenches, also upon outlying picket, each man cooking his own rations in the best way he could during the short period he could obtain in the twenty four hours for that purpose, as the system of cooking by the companies was not continued after landing in the Crimea. And to show the kind of vigilance required of the men on the covering parties it is only necessary to quote the following Brigade Order:—

“The covering party of 600 men from the Brigade of Guards will take their blankets with them, but only one-half the party must be allowed to use them at a time, the other half to be strictly on watch, and ready to spring up at a moment’s notice.”

The bell-tents constituting the Field Hospital, were pitched at a little distance from the Battalion.

On the day after arrival before Sebastopol Cholera re-appeared, and an officer who had for several days been affected with slight Diarrhœa, died after an attack of six hours' duration ; it was a striking instance of the influence which constant apprehension and anxiety are known to have, as strong predisposing causes of this disease, when prevalent. He was a fine, strong, and energetic young man, of twenty-four years of age : but during the visitation of Cholera in Bulgaria he became impressed with his own liability to the disease, and on the very day of landing in the Crimea he was affected with a slight relaxation of the bowels, and inordinate apprehension of Cholera supervening. He was able to procure a small pony to ride during the different marches, but could not be dissuaded from taking occasional small doses of astringent medicine ; he had a kind of presentiment that he should die of Cholera, which no effort could change : on the evening before his death, which occurred in the night, he had expressed himself as feeling more comfortable than for many previous days.

On the 4th of October the Brigade of Guards moved onward to the rear of the 2nd Division, on the Inkermann plateau, and in the afternoon, a small detachment of convalescent men arrived from Varna in charge of the officer who had been left in command of the sick encampment there ; they arrived in great spirits but all had been affected with Fever or Diarrhœa.

On the 7th of October ground was first broken for the formation of a two-gun battery, and on the 8th the Hospital tents were transferred to a closer proximity

to the Battalion, and an extra portion of rum was issued to each man, which was further increased for the working parties. On the 14th the daily supply of biscuits was also augmented to one-pound and three-quarters. The weather now had become much changed, and the thermometer indicated an extraordinary difference of temperature between the day and night; sickness was greatly on the increase, and many fatal cases of Cholera occurred; while several men were transferred to the General Hospital at Balaklava, where many of them died.

On the 20th the first man of the Battalion was wounded in the trenches, who, on the same night, underwent amputation of the thigh, and although the case was complicated with secondary hæmorrhage of an alarming character, he was purposely kept in the Camp for several days, subsequently made an excellent recovery, and is now alive. An officer of the Battalion,\* who was employed with a working party, on the night of the 22nd was taken prisoner by the enemy.

Towards the end of the month the number of sick under canvas in the field was forty-four, and in several cases scorbutic eruptions had appeared upon the extremities of the men. The Battalion, with the rest of the Brigade, marched down to the plain of Balaklava, at 10 A.M. on the 25th of October, arriving there just after the termination of the Light Cavalry Charge, which was witnessed during the descent from the crest of the plateau into the valley, and, during the rest of the day, it remained ready to repel any further attack of

\* Captain Lord Dunkellin.



the enemy. The Brigade detachment of convalescent men at Balaklava, already mentioned, were during the engagement formed up on the flank of the 93rd Highlanders, when that Regiment was charged by the Russian Cavalry. Towards evening the Battalion returned to the encampment on the plateau, and on the afternoon of the next day (October 26th) it acted in support of the second Division, upon whose position the enemy made a very powerful sortie. It was not engaged, but some of the men, with permission of the Commanding Officer, were afterwards placed at the temporary disposal of the Deputy Inspector-General of the Division, to enable him to erect some tents to shelter twenty-eight Russians, badly wounded, who were brought in at a late hour from the field by the ambulance waggons, and most of whom, during the succeeding twenty-four hours, underwent operations. The assistance of the medical officers of the Battalion, though repeatedly and urgently proffered, was not accepted, but on the second morning after the event, the Assistant-Surgeon was appointed to take medical charge of ten of the prisoners who had suffered amputation, for conveyance to Balaklava, where they were placed on board ship for Scutari. The first really cold day occurred on the 29th, and by the end of the month it was evident that the variable autumnal season was rapidly passing into winter, the cold being sharp and piercing, and it was the more felt by both men and officers, owing to the imperfect state of their clothing, and the insufficient covering afforded by the single canvas tents. During this third, or moveable

period of the Battalion's service, the mean strength on service was 992 exclusive of officers, and the mean strength actually present in the field 748; the primary admissions into Hospital were 396; or 26·4 per cent, per month of strength present; and the number of deaths in the Regimental Hospital 11, 9 of which resulted from Cholera, while the excess of admissions from sickness, during the month of October, was 190 over the numbers admitted in September.

On the 1st November the Battalion which had previously been encamped at some little distance from the rest of the Brigade in the immediate vicinity of the Divisional Head Quarters shifted its position nearer to the other two Battalions, but was still separated from their camp by a narrow ravine. The Hospital tents, with that of the Assistant Surgeon, however, remained on the same site on account of the serious illness of two of the men, about to be sent to Scutari. The Battalion Surgeon now left the Camp on six months' leave of absence, at the recommendation of a Medical Board, on account of disease of the lungs, which latterly, since the supervention of the damp and cold weather, had become so much aggravated, that he was incapacitated from the performance of field duties; the medical charge of the Battalion now devolved upon Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt, who at once applied for aid from the Medical Staff, and a junior officer from that department was attached to the Coldstream Guards on the morning of the 2nd. On the 4th five sick men were removed to Balaklava, and on the next day the memorable battle of Inker-

mann was fought, when the name of the Regiment was associated with a most determined and desperate resistance to the overwhelming onslaught of the enemy. The Battalion went into action at first with four Companies at about 7 A.M., two of which had just returned from outlying picket having been relieved by two others from the Camp at daybreak ; a fifth Company, which also had been on picket since the previous night, arrived subsequently at the encampment, and finding it vacant, made their way to the Battalion, which was already engaged with the enemy in front of the position of the 2nd Division. Among the tents of this division projectiles of every description were falling, and several wounded from the field were killed who had been placed there by the drummers, till the ambulance wag-gons and French cacolets, which had been generously sent by General Bosquet, could remove them to the position selected as a site for the Hospital tents. The total numbers in action with the enemy were 17 officers, and 421 men, two Companies with six officers being on picket, one officer sick in Camp, and two officers at Bala-klava, who had been ordered there a few days previously in charge of the Brigade detachment. The engagement being a complete surprise, it was impossible at the commencement to foresee what would be the destination of the survivors at its close, consequently very limited arrangements could be made by the Principal Medical Officer of the Division for the reception of the wounded. Both of the medical officers, with two Hospital orderlies, were on the field during the action, which was over about noon, and immediately

afterwards twelve bell-tents from the encampment were applied for, and pitched under the direction of the Quartermaster, near the store of the Purveyor of the Division, at a little distance from the Battalion. This spot was selected because it was considered by the medical officer in charge, that the men who had gone into action without having partaken of any food, would probably, if wounded, be much exhausted, and would require to be sustained by nourishment as the first consideration. While a general inspection of them was being made, for the purpose of detecting the more urgent casualties, the Purveyor, upon application being made to him, set about preparing a large quantity of arrowroot and wine, which he distributed hot to the wounded, as they lay upon the ground, awaiting the erection of the tents. The number of wounded collected from the field, and placed upon the site of the intended Hospital encampment was 9 officers\* and 118 men, 34 of the latter being severely, and 23 dangerously wounded; while of the officers three were mortally so; and the truth of the statement, that "next to a battle lost, there is nothing so dreadful as a battle won," was vividly impressed upon the minds of the survivors. To show the part which the Coldstream Guards bore in this conflict, it may be stated that the number actually engaged with the enemy was 17 officers

\* The officers wounded were Col. the Honble. George Upton; Lieut.-Cols. Lord Charles Fitzroy, Cowell, Halkett, and Mackinnon; Captains The Honble. Percy Feilding, and Ramsden; Lieutenants Disbrowe, and The Honble. A. Amherst.

and 421 men ; and as four officers\* and seventy-six men were killed, the total number placed *hors de combat* would be 13 officers and 194 men, or 47 per cent. of those engaged. The Brigade Major† was most severely wounded, while humanely endeavouring to assist a wounded soldier who was lying on the ground ; and the Brigadier, who had also belonged to the Regiment, was wounded in the arm. During the ensuing thirty-six hours the two medical officers were almost uninterruptedly occupied with their anxious duties, eighteen amputations were performed, of which one was at the hip and three at the shoulder-joint, besides many other less important operations ; all of the patients survived the immediate effects, with the exception of the officer who underwent (after a deliberate consultation with every available Surgeon in the vicinity), amputation at the hip-joint ; he sank almost immediately afterwards from the great constitutional shock sustained. He had been severely bayonnetted by the enemy in addition to the gun-shot wound in the thigh, which rendered the operation necessary, and he had but a few days previously arrived from the detachment at Varna, where he had been affected for a long time with Remittent Fever ; his chances of recovery from this severe operation, were thus rendered less than usual. Three officers were mortally wounded,‡ and died soon afterwards, one

\* The officers killed were Lieut.-Col. The Honble. V. Dawson, Captains The Honble. G. Eliot and Bouverie, and Lieutenant Greville.

† Captain The Honble. Percy Feilding.

‡ Lieut.-Col. Cowell, Captain Ramsden, and Lieutenant Disbrowe.

within an hour, and the others during the night. Both officers and men complained bitterly of the cruel treatment they had received at the hands of the enemy, while lying on the ground in a helpless condition.

The chief peculiarity in the state of the wounded after the battle of Inkermann, was, that all the more severe cases, without a single exception, presented a state of great physical exhaustion, and the patients were quite unable, on first arriving from the field, to undergo the additional shock of any operation. This was so far fortunate, as they did not suffer from the temporary delay in the erection of tents for their subsequent shelter. The operating table consisted of a portion of a door, placed across two empty casks, procured from the Commissariat. Chloroform, with two exceptions, was employed in every case. Sixty-one of the men who had been slightly wounded were hurried down to Balaklava, by order, on the following morning, to the great disadvantage of the others, as the valuable time of the medical officers, was, for a period, diverted from the more serious cases to prepare nominal returns, and also lists of casualties for the mail, which unfortunately left about the same time. More of the wounded were despatched on board ship on the 7th, when, as another attack of the enemy was anticipated, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge became most anxious that all those remaining in the field hospitals of the Division, should be removed as speedily as possible. This was effected by noon of the

8th, with the exception of two poor fellows who were mortally wounded. The clumsy and heavy ambulance-waggons were the only means of transport from the plateau to Balaklava, and the men complained bitterly of the discomfort experienced in them. It can never be forgotten by the author, and is worthy of record in this Report, that the Commanding officer, who had been severely wounded by a fragment of shell in the thigh during the action, did not solicit any medical assistance, until the morning of the second day, when he requested to be carried to the hospital encampment, instead of summoning the Surgeon from his anxious and incessant duties to attend on him. This Officer, notwithstanding his wound, remained in Camp till the 15th, in command of the Brigade, which he assumed in succession to the previous Brigadier,\* who had been wounded and sent on board ship: and whose health for some time previously had become impaired. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who Commanded the division in action, was also induced to go on board ship on the 7th, on account of increasing ill-health.

A few days after the battle, the bell-tents, which had been used to shelter the wounded, were returned to the Battalion, which was now reduced to 11 officers and 307 men. The survivors were much depressed at the sad havoc so unexpectedly made amongst their comrades, the effect of which was only fully realized

\* Brigadier-General Bentinck.

when the mournful duty of burying the dead was performed on the day following the action, the whole of the deceased officers being deposited in the same grave.

The shelter which accidentally protected the Battalion from the fire of the enemy at the battle of the Alma, did not exist at Inkermann, as a comparison of the subjoined tables of casualties at the two engagements will demonstrate :—

#### ALMA.

NUMBERS ENGAGED.			OFFICERS.		SERGEANTS.		RANK & FILE.	
Officers.	Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Killed.	Wounded.	Killed.	Wounded.	Killed.	Wounded.
25	89	663	..	2	...	..	..	27

#### INKERMANN.

NUMBERS ENGAGED.			OFFICERS.		SERGEANTS.		RANK & FILE.	
Officers.	Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Killed.	Wounded.	Killed.	Wounded.	Killed.	Wounded.
17	34	387	4	9	3	11	73	107

The casualties in killed and wounded in the latter action are thus seen to have been nearly one half of the combatants engaged.

The enemy in their approach to the battle-field were much favoured by the combined effects of the dense mist and the smoke, which quite concealed them from the sight of the English troops until close at hand, and even then, the thick brushwood, through



which they advanced in masses, added to the sombre colour of their clothing, very much contributed to the same results.

A week after the engagement Assistant-Surgeon Trotter arrived from Scutari with a small detachment of convalescent men. It was now generally anticipated that a winter campaign must ensue, and great hopes were entertained that suitable stores, clothing, and tents would speedily arrive from England.

On the 14th the hurricane, which commenced about daybreak, caused much discomfort to all, particularly the sick, many of whom being affected with Fever and Diarrhœa, were reduced to a far more deplorable condition, both from want of nourishment, and the total absence of all shelter for many hours: the whole of the tents of the Battalion were blown down, and the canvas of many was split into shreds by the violence of the wind. On the following day an effort was made to send a few of the sick to the General Hospital at Balaklava, as their condition had been much affected by the exposure and hardship sustained. The Commanding Officer, who, although wounded, had continued to perform the duties of acting Brigadier, was also induced to leave the Camp on the 15th, for the purpose of remaining a short time on board ship at Balaklava.

Owing to the loss of the Steam Transport "Prince," which contained a large quantity of Medical Stores and warm Clothing for the Army, the supplies for the use of the sick soon became much reduced, and, by

end of the month, the daily requisitions for both drugs and medical comforts made upon the divisional stores were frequently either abridged, or erased, with the accompanying remark of "None in Store."

On the 15th, the ration of rice, which had been issued to the men since the 19th July, was discontinued. After the hurricane the Hospital encampment was transferred to the immediate vicinity of the Battalion, and, at this period, about 17 duty men occupied each of the bell-tents.

The number sick was gradually increasing, and bell-tents being ill adapted for proper ventilation, a marquee was applied for on the 17th, which, on the next day, arrived, without ropes, and consequently was quite useless.

On the 22nd, the second draft from England arrived, consisting of 2 officers and 58 men, their average age being 21 years, and their service  $1\frac{10}{11}$  years. Two days subsequently a fatigue party was detailed from the Battalion for duty at the windmill, which was used as a powder magazine, and when at work there, the floor fell upon them, injuring several severely, one of whom required amputation of the arm in the evening.

On the 28th, an additional medical officer (Assistant-Surgeon Cay), arrived from England, and shortly afterwards, the Staff Assistant Surgeon, who had been attached temporarily to the Battalion since the beginning of the month, was removed.

The health of the men was rapidly declining, and, although every opportunity was taken of transporting

a few of the sick, as occasion offered, to Balaklava, yet many remained in Camp at the end of the month, on account of the difficulties in procuring transport, which had already begun to be severely felt. Fever and Diarrhœa were very prevalent, and several cases of Cholera had occurred. Including the wounded, 277 men were admitted during the month, of whom 18 were suffering from Typhus Fever, 4 from Dysentery, 46 from Diarrhœa and 18 from Cholera. Twenty-two men died in the Regimental Hospital, viz; eight from Cholera, two from Typhus Fever, one from Diarrhœa, and eleven from wounds. 153 sick men were transferred to Scutari.

The following is a copy of the monthly observations forwarded by the medical officer in charge, which will contribute to display the condition of the men at this time:—

“The exciting causes of disease, have, in my opinion, been the inclement state of the weather during the past month, and the men being perpetually wet, while from the great amount of duty required of them, they have often returned excessively fatigued from outlying picket after 24 hours' absence from Camp, to be again frequently sent on duty as a working party within a few hours, and, during the interval they have had very insufficient means of cooking their rations, which have generally been of good quality.

“The tents have been found a most imperfect protection from the rainy weather, the ground within being often converted into a complete quagmire; and I do not consider the men, in their debilitated state,

will be enabled, with safety, to occupy tents during a cold winter. I believe that if the sick are to be treated during the approaching winter in a Field Hospital, some kind of wooden hut will be absolutely necessary.

"Cholera has appeared amongst the draft recently arrived from England, and severe Diarrhoea has been very prevalent amongst the older soldiers. Three cases of mortification of the feet have occurred, one of which has proved fatal.

J. WYATT,

"Senior Assistant Surgeon, Coldstream Guards.

*"Camp before Sebastopol, November 30th, 1854."*

Very efficient arrangements were now in operation at Balaklava with reference to the reception of stores as they arrived from England; a building had been assigned to the Brigade, and a serjeant, with one man, appointed from each Battalion to take charge of, and give receipts for, all stores and supplies received from the ships.

The brushwood around the Camp was daily disappearing. It was cut for firewood, and afterwards the roots were dug up; but the tools supplied to the Pioneers were very brittle and soon became quite useless.

The soil of the plateau, under the influence of rain, became a tenacious deep mud, rendering the passage of wheeled vehicles almost impossible.

On the 1st of December, as a gradual failure of the ambulance transport had taken place, the Principal Medical Officer of the army required that for the

conveyance of the sick to Balaklava, some of the commissariat animals of Divisions should be ordered occasionally to be placed at the service of medical officers of Regiments; and the following circular memorandum was issued from Head Quarters to the Deputy Inspector General of the 1st Division on this subject :—

“The General Commanding the Forces is anxious that Medical Officers should avail themselves of the Commissariat Transport of their respective Divisions to send the sick into Balaklava, and if there are any difficulties in carrying out the plan, Superintending Medical Officers will be good enough to state them to the Inspector-General of Hospitals.

(Signed) “J. HALL.”

After which the following memo was inserted by the principal Medical Officer of the 1st division :—

“There are neither Ambulance-waggon nor arabas at present available for the conveyance of Sick to Balaklava.

W. LINTON,

“Deputy Inspector General 1st Division.”

On the 2nd December the rope for the Hospital marquee arrived. It had been on several occasions applied for since November 18th, but unsuccessfully, and the officer then in command of the Battalion\* reported the circumstance to the Military Secretary,

\* Colonel Lord Frederick Paulet.

who at once arranged that a sufficient quantity should be furnished from Her Majesty's ship "Sanspareil."

On the 3rd, some of the sick were removed from the bell-tents into the marquee; which, by the addition of a few boards and trestles to raise them from the wet ground, on which they had previously been compelled to lie, was rendered comparatively comfortable for them, or, at least, more wholesome. Many of the men now existed almost entirely upon the biscuit and ration of spirit; the Camp was often strewed with portions of uncooked salt meat, and partially roasted or green coffee:—the latter, even when made as palatable as their limited time and means would admit of, the men considered as a cause of the exhausting Diarrhœa, which was so universal amongst them, and indeed often ended in collapse.

The following copy of a General Order is here inserted:—

"It being considered very desirable that such officers and soldiers as require an allowance of fresh meat should receive it when possible, officers commanding regiments are requested to send a return to the Commissariat daily, certified by a medical officer, requesting a supply of fresh meat upon such days as salt meat is issued to the troops generally: this return will include both officers and men; and from the restricted available quantity of fresh meat, from forty to fifty rations daily per Regiment will be the utmost which the Commissariat will be enabled to supply. The return must be sent in to the Commissariat on the evening previous to the required issue, to

enable the officers of that department to make their arrangements accordingly."

On the 4th of December some warm clothing and extra blankets were issued to the men, and the number of the latter was increased upon the requisition of the medical officer. On the 11th the French cacolets and litières were placed at the disposal of the principal medical officer, who apportioned them according to the requirements of the different Divisions; thirty-six men of the Coldstream Guards were taken down to Balaklava, and placed on board ship for conveyance to Scutari.

On the 18th the third draft arrived from England, consisting of seven officers and 153 men, whose average age was  $21\frac{1}{2}$  years, and service eight months. Scurvy was now almost general amongst the men, accompanied with deep ulcerations and swelling of the leg, and extreme debility and dejection of spirits; although a sufficient quantity of lime-juice and preserved potatoes could now be obtained for the use of the Sick in Hospital, it would have been most desirable if both articles could have formed part of the daily ration for the duty men, many of whom suffered from frost-bitten feet and hands. As no brandy could be procured for a long time from the division stores, it was provided for the use of the sick by the liberality of the Officer then in temporary command.\* Eight sacks of Potatoes were issued to the men during the month, also a few cases of carrots, turnips, and onions. The numbers convalescent "and excused duty," often

\* Colonel Newton.

doubled those actually in the Hospital tents. A requisition was made on the 18th for a second Hospital Marquee, which arrived on the 29th without ropes, and five pieces of the canvas side-walls deficient.

On the 27th the ration of rice, discontinued since the 15th of November, began to be re-issued. 221 men were admitted into Hospital during the month of December, of whom 145 were suffering from Diarrhoea, 20 from Scurvy, and 7 from Cholera; 17 died, and 99 were transferred to Scutari.

The following is a copy of the Monthly Report :—  
 “The cold weather has materially affected the health of the men, who now suffer much from the effects of frost-bitten feet; and the means of treating them at this season of the year, under canvas, are very inadequate. Deficiency of transport has been severely felt, as well as the want of the establishment of permanent Field Hospitals, which during the incessant wet weather, would have been a great boon to the sick soldier, and placed him in a position independent of those inconveniences under canvas which have so materially retarded the chances of his recovery.”

The men suffered more in health from the imperfect state of their boots than from any other defect in clothing: having no change, their feet were perpetually sodden in moisture; and when the long boots were issued, they were so large and badly made that a report was made upon them by the Senior Medical Officers of the Coldstream and Scots Fusilier Guards. Great difficulty was experienced in inducing



the men to take them off at night when asleep in their tents, on account of the cold, the thermometer sometimes ranging from 15° to 11° Fahrenheit, and their wet feet often being swollen, were then constricted by the leather, and thus Frost-bite induced, or sloughing of the toes, with sometimes an utter impossibility of subsequently removing the boots except by cutting the leather.

To demonstrate the constitutional taint produced by Scurvy, and the want of power, which exists under those circumstances to repair an injury, the following case is detailed :—

On the 28th of January a young soldier received a gun-shot wound through the centre of the left hand, fracturing severely two of the bones of the middle finger; and it being of so much importance to preserve every portion of a labouring man's hand, an attempt at conservative Surgery was made, but his gums were tumid, and several spots of purpura appeared on his legs. The finger soon sloughed away, Diarrhœa came on, and while in the Hospital his lower extremities became severely frost-bitten; mortification of both feet ensued, which were detached by portions, rather assisting the efforts of Nature than adding to the probability of further extension of the disease by any operative proceedings. He lingered until the 22nd of March, having been then fifty-three days under treatment, and at the time of his death both feet were gone; but had sufficient reparative power of the system existed to have rendered his

recovery possible, very good stumps would have been formed for the adaptation of artificial feet.

On the 11th January the actual numbers of the Battalion in Camp, were 23 officers, 26 serjeants, 24 drummers, and 568 rank and file—total 641 ; of whom there were, Sick in Hospital, 80 ; convalescents 62 ; men with frost-bitten feet, 16—total 158—leaving 483 as the total strength of those fit for duty, and the health of many of these men was much impaired.

On the 14th one tent per company was appointed for the use of the convalescents, who were usually men recently dismissed from Hospital with trivial affections, often on account of the crowded state of the marquee and tents by more important cases, or they were men not considered sufficiently ill to be taken into Hospital, but who were unable for a few days, from frost-bitten toes, &c., to perform their duties ; and it was often considered desirable to afford such men an opportunity of procuring a few days' rest from the unceasing daily toil they were then undergoing. After the sick men once left the Crimea it was very rarely that any further tidings were heard of them, no regular communications being transmitted by the Commandant of the General Hospital at Scutari to the regimental authorities in the Crimea, consequently the only means by which the deaths on the voyage, or arrivals of the men at Scutari, could be ascertained, was through the columns of the "Times," from the announcements in which, for a considerable period, the deaths of men previously sent away from Camp were often copied into the numerical monthly

returns ; this omission produced so much inconvenience, and led to so many mistakes, that the following appeared as part of a general order on the 18th of December :—

“It is the duty of the Military officer, placed in charge of the invalids on passage to Scutari, when circumstances prevent his being furnished with a correct nominal list of those on board, to prepare a list himself, and to deliver it, noting any casualties which may have occurred during the voyage, to the officer who superintends the disembarkation of the invalids at Scutari. The Purveyors at the several Hospitals, are strictly ordered to communicate to regiments, as soon as possible, the death, or removal to England, of any soldier.”

Great difficulty was sometimes experienced in procuring the necessary authority from Head Quarters for the assemblage of a Medical Board, to decide upon the removal of sick officers from the Camp, on account of the numerous channels through which the application had to pass, before the final permission was received, and from this delay the patients sometimes suffered severely.

Buffalo robes, tarpaulins, sheep-skin coats, fur caps, mits, comforters, flannels hirts, and drawers, &c., were issued, from time to time, during the month of January.

The number of admissions during the month was 186, of which 84 were from Diarrhœa, 29 from Gelatio, and 14 from Scorbutus ; 37 men died in the Regimental Hospital, and 91 were transported to Scutari.

The average daily sick was 63·38 per cent of strength present.

The first severe frost occurred on Christmas night ; but during the month of January snow storms were frequent, and the cold often intense, being sometimes many degrees below freezing point at night ; at times there were 12 degrees difference, between the indications of the day and night, as happened on the 16th of January, when the Thermometer indicated 21 degrees in the morning, and in the course of the night sunk to 9 degrees.

Notwithstanding the occasional use of the French mule transport, many of the sick were sent to Bala-klava on the cavalry horses, and as several of the men had never ridden a horse previously, it proved a most painful mode of conveyance in their then weak and exhausted condition.

On the 30th the deficiencies in the Second Hospital Marquee, furnished in a useless state, on the 29th of December, were rectified. The following is a copy of the monthly report forwarded by the senior medical officer :—

“The state of the Battalion has been unhealthy, as the proportion of sickness to strength will testify. Many severe cases of frost-bitten feet have occurred, three of which have ended fatally. We are still without the benefit of a wooden hut for the sick ; but have two Hospital Marquees which afford very insufficient warmth during the inclement weather. Application has been made for a hut for the reception of the sick

in Camp. The want of transport is severely felt. Scurvy, attended with a peculiar despondency of spirits, is very prevalent, and I consider it likely that the disease will much increase, unless a more frequent supply of fresh meat is allowed. I have used lime-juice extensively in the Hospital, and have also recommended that every soldier in the Battalion should be allowed a portion daily, mixed with his grog, to ensure its being taken."

The following Division Order was issued on the 31st :—

"On all occasions, when troops are to be disembarked, on their arrival from England, and as convalescents from Scutari, parties, on their arrival, will be sent down to Balaklava to assist them in bringing up their extra clothing, and on their arrival in Camp a report will be forwarded to the Brigade Office."

On the 1st of February two boxes of oranges arrived, as a present to the sick, from Sir Edmund Lyons, and never perhaps was anything more gratefully received by them, particularly by those affected with scurvy. On the 2nd Major General Lord Rokeby arrived from England to assume the permanent command of the 1st Division, and immediately after inspecting the Brigade he was so struck with the exhausted appearance on parade of the surviving men, that he most humanely stated his intention of reporting the circumstance of their condition to the Commander of the Forces, with the view of procuring an exemption from the trench duties for a time, as being likely to afford them an op-

portunity of recruiting somewhat their exhausted powers. On the 3rd the cold was so intense that the ink was frozen inside the Hospital marquee. The instruments both public and private, being much worn, application was made on the 6th, to the Government Cutler who had arrived at Balaklava to repair them ; but this proved to be quite impossible, as the requisite tools had not arrived ! On the 9th the following communication was forwarded for the information of the Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, respecting the state of the Battalion, and the age, which according to experience derived from the Crimean campaign, appeared best adapted for recruits arriving there.

“ Camp before Sebastopol, Feb. 5th, 1855.

“ Sir,

“ I beg to send you a report, the necessity of which I have lately had under my most serious consideration, and as I am sure you will agree with me, it is a subject which deeply concerns the vitality of the Battalion, I make no apology for bringing it under your notice. I am sure that every officer, who has the welfare of the service at heart, has reflected on the subject latterly, both here and in England, and in a general way, perhaps has arrived at certain conclusions, but unless founded on specific data, such as I now have the honor to enclose, these conclusions must be necessarily, more or less, speculative. As Senior Medical Officer of the Battalion on active service, I have frequently been

painfully reminded of the utter uselessness of young soldiers being sent out from England to share the duties of this campaign, which have been severe, and not altogether devoid of hardships and privations of an unexpected character. Many of the new arrivals have succumbed, almost immediately after landing, while others have performed their duties, for a more prolonged period; but very few indeed have continued healthy up to this date. It will be also interesting to you to know the proportion of sickness which at present affects the old, and young soldiers. By the term 'old soldiers' I mean those who embarked with the Battalion from England last February. The three several drafts since sent out from England have arrived as follows:—

1st draft consisting of 153 men of all ranks, on July 19th, 1854			
2nd	„	58	„ November 22nd, 1854
3rd	„	153	„ December 18th, 1854

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“The first draft reached us in Bulgaria, and the two latter in the Crimea. The Battalion landed in this country with an effective strength of 808 men of all ranks. At the battle of the Alma there were twenty-nine casualties, and at Inkermann 207, exclusive of several men who had been sent on board ship during the march to Balaklava. Our strength, on the 1st of October, was reduced to 633, ‘present under arms.’ On the 1st of November it was diminished to 600; and on the 1st of December to 441, of all ranks

'present under arms,' which was owing to the deduction arising from casualties on the 5th of November. On the 1st of January, 1855, the total strength was 363, and on the 1st of February the numbers had diminished to 173.

"The great decrease of the strength in the last quoted month depended, in my opinion, on the combined effects of inclement weather—harrassing nature of the duties—the too frequent use of salt provisions—and insufficient clothing, rest, and shelter.

"During the months of December and January the diminution is thus accounted for :—

"In December the casualties were, by deaths in camp 17 ; by removal to Scutari, 61—total 78. In January the casualties were, by deaths in camp 35 ; by removal to Scutari and elsewhere, 155—total 190.

"This shows an increase of mortality in camp of 18 men during the latter month. Of the seventeen deaths in the month of December, seven were old soldiers, and ten belonged to the drafts ; and of the thirty-five who died during the month of January, there were twenty-six old soldiers and nine of the drafts.

"The strength of the Battalion on the first of February was 173 of all ranks on the ground, of which number, 68 were old soldiers, and 105 were men of the drafts. At the same date there were 136 men of all ranks under Hospital treatment in camp, and 364 absent at Scutari, or other places.

"Of the 136 in the Camp Hospital tents, 76 were



old soldiers, 15 men of the first draft, 7 of the second, and 37 of the third ; and of the total number under treatment, more than one-third were under the age of twenty-one years. You will perceive from this imperfect report, that since November 1st we have received from England 211 men, of which number 124 only remain for duty, 59 being under Hospital treatment in camp, 29, having died, and the remainder have been transferred to Scutari.

“I am sorry to draw your attention to the fact of the old soldiers being now much debilitated ; many of them who are in Hospital, and others who have lately been transferred to Scutari, have for the first time during the Campaign come under my notice. I am happy to say, however, that since the excessively cold weather has disappeared, the acuteness of the diseases in camp has diminished

“In an official communication which I have lately received from the Surgeon-Major, he states that a fine set of recruits are now arriving from the Militia regiments ; and, therefore, I venture to suggest, that if possible, it would be very desirable to limit the minimum age of their reception to twenty-one years. I am quite certain, as the result of my own experience, as well as that derived from other Medical officers, that younger men only contribute to fill our Camp Hospitals, and thus very materially to diminish the effective strength of the Battalion.

“We have suffered, I regret to say, very much from want of transport, both as regards conveyance of the

sick from, and of medical stores and comforts, to the Camp. We are now expecting to be removed to Balaklava.

I have, &c.,

JOHN WYATT.

“To Col. the Honourable Geo. UPTON, C. B.,  
“Commanding Coldstream Guards.”

The sick were dispatched to Balaklava during the month of February by the bāt-horses of the Battalion, the Commissariat mules, and the Cavalry horses. In every case an Assistant Surgeon of the Brigade accompanied them, and reported on his return to Camp their arrival at Balaklava; and as there had been reason to suppose that unnecessary delay had some times occurred on arrival there, the following General Order was issued:—

“For the future, sick men will not be sent down to Balaklava until due notice has been given to the officer commanding their regiments that there is accommodation for them, either in Hospital or on Board Ship.”

The weather on the 18th and 19th became spring-like, and continued extremely mild for several days; a change which was very welcome to the sick. The Commandant at Balaklava was authorized, during the whole of the winter, to send back to their Regiments in the front, from the General Hospital, any Convalescents fit for duty; this did not, however, often occur, as the sick had usually been compelled to

remain so long in Camp, that they did not derive any speedy benefit from so slight a change as removal to Balaklava.

A Field officer from each Battalion of the Brigade of Guards was now ordered to proceed to Scutari, for the purpose of ascertaining what had become of the numerous sick men despatched from the Crimea, respecting whom no definite information had been since received by the Regimental authorities, and although the absence of the officer selected for this duty from the Coldstream Guards was severely felt by the sick in the Field Hospital tents, whose wants and sufferings he was daily endeavouring to assist the Commanding officer and Surgeon in supplying and alleviating, yet the benefit which subsequently accrued to every department from the effects of his mission to Scutari, amply compensated for the deprivation occasioned by his absence; and by none was this more practically experienced than by the Surgeon, whose facility for making up correct periodical returns only commenced with the reception of the report of this Officer from Scutari.

He reported that there was an absence of a good system of entering the men's admission at the Hospital, or of registering their deaths or discharges; their kits, were either stored or condemned without regular authority, or were left in the hold of transports, carried up and down during many voyages, and not unfrequently plundered. When a man died, no regular record was kept or transmitted to his Regi-

ment, although professedly done. No returns whatever had been sent to the Battalion of men dead, invalided home, or otherwise employed ; but during the six weeks this officer remained at Scutari, he established the great desideratum of fortnightly returns being despatched regularly to the Crimea ; and the same desirable system of periodical returns was kept up subsequently by a sergeant of the Coldstream Guards, who was retained on permanent staff employ at Scutari Hospital.

On the 24th February at noon the relic of the Coldstream Guards left the plateau for Balaklava to recruit their strength, but not their spirits ; there were fewer than 100 men of all ranks. For some time previously it had become quite manifest, that if the men continued to live under the same circumstances, it was but a question of time how long the Battalion would exist, except on paper : the convalescents and sick with two of the medical officers, remained behind ; the former, 41 in number, followed the Battalion on the 27th, and the latter, 75 in number, were conveyed by the French mule transport next day ; when twenty were transferred to the General Hospital on account of the want of space in the huts appropriated as a Hospital for the Battalion. The encampment was on the north side of the harbour of Balaklava, on the slope of the rocky hill, just above the Turkish burial ground, and the huts, which had been vacated by the 39th Regiment (recently arrived from England) were badly ventilated, crowded together, and extremely filthy ;

they were appropriated for the use of the men, the officers occupying bell-tents on a more elevated site.

The temperature had now become warm, and on leaving the plateau the annual bulbous vegetation appeared above ground in every direction. Since the commencement of January, owing to the efforts of the Quarter-master, the men had each been enabled to obtain about one pound of potatoes per diem; part of this supply was issued free, as a ration; but the greater portion was purchased. Lime-juice was not issued as a ration to the men, until the 16th February, and after that date for three times only during the month in the following proportion for 100 men:—Lime-juice, five pints, rum, eight; water, eighteen pints; sugar, four pounds.

The comfort and shelter which the men now for the first time experienced from the occupation of huts, were rather detracted from, by the stench emanating from the swampy marsh constituting the Turkish burial-ground, where many corpses had been superficially interred, and from the decomposition of which noisome effluvia escaped, more particularly evident at night, while from the perpendicular nature of the rock behind the huts, all possibility of a supply of fresh air was most effectually prevented. The front of the encampment was almost entirely closed in by the stables of the Land Transport Corps, and it did appear most strange that such a position should have been selected for the erection of a hutted encampment, even for healthy men, without alluding to

the far worse consequences likely to ensue, when they were occupied by sick, whose powers of resistance against all exciting causes of disease were much reduced. As an almost necessary consequence of those conditions, several cases of maculated Fever for the first time appeared. As regards the means available for cooking, that for the sick in Hospital was performed in a sheltered kind of Stone building, which was erected by the convalescents, and the wood for the roofing of which, was pillaged by the Medical officers, and their servants, from a deserted house beyond the advanced picket, in the valley below the plateau, and brought up the steep ascent with great physical labour.

Respecting the means available for cooking the daily rations, the following communication was received officially from the Adjutant in reply to some queries which the Surgeon was desired to report upon.

“About the first week in December, one man per company was struck off duty to find wood, and provide water, for each company; but every man cooked his own rations as he came off duty. This was not found to answer, as the duties became so severe that some men had not time to cook their rations. About the first week in February, two men were appointed to cook for each Company, and this system was found to answer better, and is still continued.

The issue of green coffee was discontinued on the 22nd of February, and compressed vegetables were supplied for the first time on the 26th.

The following is the amount and kind of clothing issued to the Battalion between the 6th December and 28th February:—Great coats, 392; trousers, 100 pairs; sheepskin coats, 459; tweed coats, 29; fur caps, 503; flannel shirts, 147; jersey frocks, 861; socks, pairs of, 1527; flannel drawers, 994; mitts, 993; boots, long and short, 532; comforters, 446; gregos, 55.

The clothing for 1854 was also issued, consisting of one red coat, one waistcoat, and one pair of boots for each man.

This concludes the fourth period of service, as pre-arranged at the commencement of this report, than which none, either preceding or subsequent, can be so deeply interesting to the author, who amidst the toils and anxieties of his most responsible position, can never forget the patient endurance and sufferings of the sick and wounded, who bore the steady increase of privations and deficiencies of various kinds, without a murmur of discontentment; such a feeling could only have been the inspiration of real forbearance combined with devotion to duty, and discipline of the highest order; the very imperfect efforts of the surgeon were always with the greatest avidity assisted by the unsolicited generosity of many of the officers, some of whom were unremitting in their efforts to procure supplies from private sources, which could not be procured from the public stores, and also by daily visits to the Field Hospitals to console the inmates by every kind of sympathy and commiseration.

From the date of the disembarkation of the Battalion in the Crimea, until the reception of the first return from the officer sent to investigate the state and number of the sick and wounded at Scutari and elsewhere, the returns transmitted to England were only an approximation to the correct strength, and the following table for the four months specified will shew the difference between the assumed number of the Battalion absent from England on Service, and the number actually present and efficient in the field.

Date.	Effective strength of all ranks in the field, "Present under Arms."	Assumed Strength on Service.
1st November, 1854 .....	600	1,009
1st December, " .....	451	1,050
1st January, 1855 .. .....	353	981
1st February, " .....	173	933

The mean assumed strength on service during the period was 993·25 men, and the mean strength actually present in the field (exclusive of officers) was 561. The mean number of primary admissions per month, from all causes, into the Camp and General Hospitals, was 200·5, or 35·7 per cent. of the strength present, and the total number of deaths in the Regimental Hospital was 91. The proportions of the admissions from the chief prevailing diseases affecting the men will be seen on reference to the appended statistical table.

After the arrival of the Brigade of Guards at Bala-



klava, the men were employed daily on fatigue work in unloading vessels, &c., or upon guard at the different wharfs and public stores. In common with the other troops encamped in the vicinity of Bala-klava, the Battalion was placed under the orders of Lieutenant General Sir Colin Campbell, who commanded the district, and who, on the 6th of March, issued the following memorandum :—

“Each commanding officer of a Regiment, will send, on the 14th and 29th of each month, for the information of Lieutenant-General Sir C. Campbell, and in conformity with orders received from Lord Panmure, a statement of the number of days on which fresh meat has been received by the men ; the days, if any, on which the ration has been deficient, altogether, or in part ; whether bread or biscuit has been supplied ; whether the men are complete in clothing ; whether they are in wooden huts, in mud huts, or in tents ; giving the reason why they have not got wooden huts ; whether the rations of food, fuel, and forage have been conveyed by Government transport to the neighbourhood of each Corps, or whether the soldiers have been obliged to go to Bala-klava for them ; if so, what transport they have had, and how long was the fatigue, and what number of men was so employed, also, whether the fuel and forage were deficient in quantity or quality.

“This statement will be accompanied by a report from the Regimental Surgeon, with his opinion as to the effects of the diet supplied on the men’s health,

stating the average number of sick during the fortnight, and comparing it with that of the previous one, and suggesting what sort of food he would propose to keep the men healthy; and whether vegetables have been obtained regularly, or only occasionally, and whether given by Government or purchased by the men, or if for the sick, by the officers.

By order,

(Signed)

A. C. STIRLING,

“Assistant Adjutant-General.”

The first return of convalescent men from Scutari, from wounds received in action at Alma and Inkermann, was on the 8th of March, and they all spoke in the warmest terms of gratitude of the kind and unremitting attention they had received from Miss Nightingale, and the lady nurses. Great difficulties were now experienced in procuring a supply of the most ordinary medicines from the divisional medical stores, not caused, however, by any deficiency in the Crimea, as the chief apothecary's stores were visited subsequently by the surgeon and the commanding officer, and found to abound in every requisite.

In accordance with the latter part of the district memorandum, the first fortnightly report from the senior medical officer of the Coldstream Guards was forwarded on the 14th, as follows:—

“1. The medical officer in charge of the Battalion is of opinion, that the increased number of days

during the bi-monthly period above mentioned, on which fresh meat has been issued to the men, has already produced a beneficial influence on their health, and the same remark will apply to the issue of vegetables.

“2. The average number of sick during the period, actually under treatment in the Regimental Hospital huts has been 76·28, while that of the previous fortnight, from the 14th to the 28th of February (both days inclusive), was 142·71. But during the latter period the Battalion was encamped on the heights before Sebastopol, and since that time forty men have been transferred to the General Hospital at Balaklava.

“3. The men having been for so long a period confined to the hard ration biscuit, and their digestion having become necessarily much debilitated by the almost unvaried diet of salt provisions, on which they have subsisted during the past winter, it would be most desirable, and of infinite importance to their health, if they could now be supplied with a daily ration of fresh bread, instead of a continuance of biscuit. This suggestion appears of the most vital importance to the sick soldier, and has lately been practically displayed when, from private sources, bread has been purchased for them.

“4. Fresh meat should, at least, be issued to the men three days in the week, if possible.

“5. The supply of vegetables has been occasional, but, during the past fortnight, potatoes and onions have been issued, on an average, every second day.

It would be most desirable if this article of diet could be issued daily.

"6. The vegetables which have been lately issued, were frequently purchased by the men ; but, as regards the sick in the Regimental Hospital, there has been an uninterrupted supply of preserved potatoes. Also with reference to the consideration of vegetable diet, and the great benefit which is well known may be anticipated from its use, by men who have been for so long a period deprived of it, I urge the absolute necessity of continuing the daily employment of lime-juice, mixed with rum and sugar (according to No. 20 of the General Order of 31st January), in addition to the occasional issue of vegetables."

To demonstrate the influence which the constant attendance on the sick under the circumstances in which they were placed, had upon the health and lives of the Hospital orderlies, it may be stated that, during the period from 26th of September, 1854, to 27th of March 1855, the Hospital sergeant and twenty orderlies were admitted sick, of whom five died, and six were invalided. The remainder, after prolonged periods of convalescence, returned to their duty. Of those invalided, one recovered from a disease simulating glanders, after having lost his nose, the whole of his toes, and his left hand, which, being entirely disorganized was amputated.\*

The Commanding officer of the Battalion, who had been almost uninterruptedly present with it since

\* This poor fellow was invalided to England, and subsequently discharged the service.

the arrival of the first draught in Bulgaria, and who, for a considerable period after the battle of Inkermann, commanded also the Brigade of Guards, now left for England on duty, but issued previously the following farewell address :—

“Being called to England to command the Regiment, Colonel Upton has to relinquish that of the 1st Battalion, which he has had the honour to hold during the most eventful period that has occurred in his own service, as it must be also in the services of those who have been under his command.

“In taking leave of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, of the Battalion, Colonel Upton leaves with them, they well know, his earnest wishes for their future welfare and glory. He has known and witnessed their gallantry and firmness before the enemy, their endurance and their discipline under every trial and pressure; and they may rest assured they will ever have his best exertions in promoting all that relates to their interest and advantage. To the young soldiers one word at parting—let them ever hold in view the conduct and bearing which has characterized their older comrades, that they, in their turn, may pass it on to others, and so uphold and carry forward the name of the distinguished Regiment of which they now form a part. The command now devolves upon Lord Frederick Paulet, to whom all reports and applications will be addressed.”

As the occupation of the present huts was only a

temporary measure, till others could be erected in a more healthy situation, the men of the Battalion were struck off all duties after a few days, for the purposes of aiding in their erection. The site chosen was, in every respect, most desirable, and quite in accordance with the views expressed by the Surgeon, who upon this, as upon all other occasions concerning the health of the men, was consulted by the Commanding Officer, and with him inspected the proposed site on the 17th.

The position was on the west side of Balaklava harbour, above one of the steep ravines, and about 300 feet above the sea level, on the limestone rock, where the means of drainage were ample, as the surrounding inclinations were all steep. The upper part of the encampment, which was occupied by the Grenadier Guards, was surrounded by brushwood, and the soil of the whole was of a clayey nature. The vicinity of the ravines for the erection of the huts was avoided, as they had the disadvantage of opening at their lower end on to the foul marsh, which extended from the head of Balaklava harbour towards Kadekoi. The huts were insulated from the surrounding ground, and the foundation raised above the surface level. On the 20th, a Sanitary Commission under the presidency of the Principal Medical Officer of the Army, inspected the Camps and Hospitals around Balaklava, and unhesitatingly condemned the huts at this time occupied by the Battalion as being in every respect, most unhealthily situated.—On the next day the right

wing and convalescents removed to the new position previously alluded to, and the left wing followed when a sufficient number of huts had been erected.

Every precaution of a sanitary nature was now taken to oppose the possibility of any epidemic occurring. A report was ordered to be sent daily to the Major-General commanding the division, stating that all offal and dead animal matter in the vicinity of the camps had been buried, and that general cleanliness prevailed ; while the huts were all inspected daily and a report furnished for the information of the Commanding Officer.

On the 26th, the senior medical officer was examined by the commission, presided over by Sir John McNeil.

On the 28th the remaining sick who were too ill to be removed when the Battalion marched from the front, arrived, under the charge of Assistant Surgeon Cay ; and on the next day, the new Hospital huts being at last completed (those for the duty men having been erected first), the sick with the surgeon, finally vacated the unhealthy locality.

During the month of March, 101 men were admitted into the Camp Hospital, of whom twenty-four were suffering from Typhus Fever and forty-five from Diarrhœa : the mortality was ten ; of which Diarrhœa produced seven cases, Typhus Fever two, and Gelatio one, the latter being the man previously alluded to, who accidentally shot himself through the hand on the 28th of January. The great decrease in the monthly mortality must be attributed to the better

condition of the men; and the Surgeon's report stated that fresh meat was now issued to them very frequently, and the sick in Hospital had fresh bread daily. Several representations were made on this subject, and it was recommended that the men generally should be supplied with bread instead of biscuit. It was considered also that a small quantity of beer issued daily to the men would be of great benefit to them.

Febrile diseases during the month took the place of Dysenteric and Scorbutic affections. The term "Scorbutic Dysentery" applied most aptly to the diseases as they were seen in a conjoint form in the Camp. Post mortem examinations very rarely revealed any ulceration or breach of surface in the small intestines; but the mesenteric veins were sometimes congested. A diet of rice and milk proved of essential benefit to the sick soldier under such circumstances. Two cases of maculated typhus appeared and recovered. None of the sick were sent to Scutari when the Battalion left the front; from this arrangement, it is conceived that the lives of many soldiers were preserved, considering the vast numbers of those previously sent away who had died, and it was intended for the future that men who were so much debilitated as to be unable to perform duty, should be sent home to England.\*

On the 1st of April, an application was made to the Commanding Officer for two men to be attached

\* This plan was strongly supported by the General Officer commanding the Division.



permanently to the Hospital, for the purpose of washing the patients' linen, which, from want of means, had been very imperfectly performed in the front during the winter. This application, although somewhat unusual, was immediately granted, as were all other requests with reference to the Hospital Department. The Commanding Officer also acquiesced in the proposition of the Surgeon, to afford the convalescents some light employment during the day, which they gladly availed themselves of, till able to perform their regular duties.

On the 6th of April the thermometer indicated 65° in the shade. Early morning parades, at three o'clock, now occurred daily ; and the Battalion was ordered to march to the hill on the opposite side of the harbour, and to wait, in formation, near the Highland Camp, till daybreak ; but it was often dismissed without moving away from the Camp.

On the 11th, soft bread was issued to the men instead of biscuit ; and on the 12th an Assistant-Surgeon was detached with a company, which had been ordered to proceed to the village of Karani, for the purpose of making gabions ; and another was sent to do duty at the General Hospital at Balaklava, where many of the sick of the Brigade were still under treatment, on account of the crowded state of the Battalion huts on first coming from the front ; the Assistant-Surgeons of the Brigade performed this duty in turn, each for a fortnight at a time, but this arrangement only lasted a few weeks, as the sick were subsequently withdrawn to the Hospitals of the several Battalions.

In accordance with the opinion expressed in the Quarterly Report, an application was made by the Surgeon, on the 17th, for some invalids to be sent to England instead of to Scutari ; and, on the following day, a Medical Board was held on sixteen of them, when it was decided that the plan recommended would afford them the best chance of permanent recovery. On the 18th, the following was the statement furnished for the bi-monthly Report :—

“ The Medical Officer in charge of the Battalion reports, that during the past fortnight the health of the men has not improved to the same extent as previously. Fevers, of a low form, have been the prevailing diseases, and during the period four men have died in the Regimental Hospital. The average number of daily sick during the period actually under treatment in the Regimental Hospital has been 68. Sixteen men, all of whom, with one exception, were very young soldiers of a few months' service, are now about to be sent to England for change of climate : they have performed scarcely any duty since landing in the Crimea. The men doing duty with the Battalion have had soft bread served out to them twice only during the last fortnight ; and, as I stated in my last report, it would be most desirable that this supply should be continued as often as possible, I feel confident of the beneficial change that will be likely to ensue.

Vegetables are now issued daily in small quantities. No lime-juice has been issued during the past fortnight.

On the 21st, the 16 invalids previously alluded to were sent on board ship.

To the daily rations were now added half an ounce of salt per man, and one quarter of an ounce of pepper for every eight men, which articles had been much desired since the augmented issue of fresh meat had taken place.

The Hospital Serjeant, who had throughout the entire period of the Campaign remained indefatigably at his post, now succumbed to a severe attack of fever, and, considering the nature of his trying duties, it was marvellous that he had been able to withstand the influence of disease so long ; he subsequently became so much exhausted that it was necessary to invalid him home.

On the 27th, Lieutenant-Colonel Carleton, the officer who had been detached on the mission of inquiry at the Scutari Hospital, rejoined the Battalion.

During the month of April 53 men were admitted into the Battalion Hospital, and five deaths occurred ; 39 of the admissions were from fever, of which two were fatal. In the Monthly Observations it was advised that the men should invariably wear the cholera belts, and that none should be allowed to go on guard at night without this fact having been ascertained ; also that white cap covers should be worn. It was also stated that additional means of ventilation were required for the huts of the men, which were very much confined in that respect.

On the 1st of May the fourth draft arrived in the steamship "Alma," consisting of 6 officers and 307 men, whose average age was  $22\frac{1}{2}$  years, and service

seven months. Four of the officers had originally embarked with the Battalion, three of them had been ordered home on duty from Bulgaria, the other being the officer who had undergone amputation of the arm at the shoulder-joint, after the battle of the Alma. Of the men comprising this draft, which was inspected previously to landing by the Surgeon, 24 were at once sent to the Hospital, who, with the exception of one man affected with Small-pox, were nearly all suffering from non-dangerous complaints. The three senior officers\* present in the Crimea were now ordered to join the 2nd Battalion, and were replaced by three others of a similar rank from England, in consequence of the regimental promotion which had lately occurred.

On the 3rd, a case of Cholera occurred among the men of the Karani detachment.

The heat was now excessive, and the Battalion being ordered to drill in the adjoining plain at 3 o'clock P.M., in red coats and bearskins, a representation was made to the Commanding Officer of the injurious effects which would be likely to ensue to the men ; and, through his intercession with the Major-General, fatigue dress for the men, and blue coats for the officers, were substituted. On the 9th the Brigadier issued the following order :—

“ The Major-General commanding the Brigade requests that Commanding Officers of Battalions will use their utmost endeavours to check the men of their respective corps from at once throwing off their clothing,

\* The officers now ordered home were Col. Lord Frederick Paulet, Col. Newton, and Lieut.-Col. Wood, who were relieved by Colonels Gordon Drummond, (to command) Daniell, and Perceval.

or exposing themselves to any sudden chill after being heated by drill or any exercise.

“The Major-General strongly recommends a practice which he himself has seen adopted with great advantage in Portugal, of requiring the men, after having returned from afternoon drill or exercise, immediately to put on their loose great coats, and to wear them for the remainder of the day, while remaining in camp, particularly during the hour of sunset, which is the time above all others when men are most liable to be suddenly chilled, with great prejudice to their health.”

On the 17th, bathing parades were commenced, a Medical Officer being always present. On the 18th, a Brigade drill was ordered at 4 P.M., with red coats and bearskins, in the plain as before ; but on this occasion 16 men fell out of the ranks from the effects of the excessive heat, which at 2 P.M. had been 90 degrees in the shade. On the 22nd, the right wing, with an Assistant-Surgeon, was ordered to proceed to occupy the huts lately vacated by the 93rd Highlanders, in a most undesirable position, surrounded by low swampy ground, and abutting on the plain of Balaklava. Two days after their arrival at that spot, a case of malignant Cholera occurred among them, which was speedily fatal. On the 23rd, the following Brigade Memorandum appeared :—

“1. The Commanding Officers of Battalions may make use of the light summer dress at all drills, unless they receive orders to the contrary ; they will use their discretion as to the occasions on which it shall be worn.

" 2. The Major-General commanding having observed that in changing quarters many men of the Brigade turned out with extra haversacks, bundles, &c., he requests Commanding Officers will cause all things in excess of the proper kits to be placed in store, or made away with.

" 3. A number of men fall out almost before they have walked a mile. Commanding Officers will cause all such men, unless they are declared by the Medical Officer to have sufficient cause for quitting the ranks, to parade at the hours of defaulters' drill, in marching order, and be marched about for an hour on each occasion, in order to accustom them in carrying the amount of necessaries they must do, on the line of march.

" The utmost care must be taken to prevent men from taking off their clothes when they are heated, or drinking water ; a small quantity held in the mouth for a short period will be found more effectual in allaying thirst than the dangerous practice of swallowing large quantities."

On the 24th, upon the recommendation of the Medical Officer, the Commanding Officer caused to be inserted in the Battalion Orders the following memorandum :—

" The Commanding Officer requests that the senior Medical Officer of the Battalion will cause a list of those convalescents who are on light duties to be sent to the orderly room at eight A.M.

Every Saturday evening a written report must also be sent by Mr. Wyatt, to the effect that the men have

been daily inspected in the usual manner, that the huts are clean and well ventilated, and also any other suggestion respecting the sanitary condition of the camp."

On the 30th another case of Cholera occurred at the head-quarters of the Battalion, with a fatal result after twelve hours.

The admissions into the Hospital during the month were 134, of which 45 were from Fever (of these 35 had assumed the remittent character), and 34 from Diarrhœa; six cases of Cholera had occurred, and two deaths had taken place from that disease. It now became evident that another visitation of this scourge was impending, and every precaution which could be devised was taken to enable the men to resist the disease. The Grenadier Guards had already suffered severely. As both of the Regimental Assistant-Surgeons were on detachment duty, additional medical assistance was applied for from the Staff, and Assistant-Surgeon Dickson was temporarily attached to the Battalion in consequence.

The Monthly Observations for May stated, "The average daily sick has been 73. Cholera has re-appeared in a severe form, and Diarrhœa during the latter part of the month has been very prevalent, chiefly, however, affecting the young soldiers. A more frequent supply of fresh meat would be very desirable for the health of the men. Charcoal and lime have been placed beneath the boards of the men's huts, and every consideration is paid to efficient ventilation. Now that Cholera has re-appeared, it would be of the highest

importance to ascertain the experience of Medical Officers of the Army as regards the results of treatment employed.

During the past summer in Turkey, I believe the cold douche to have been a valuable adjunct in the treatment of commencing collapse."

On the 1st of June the following suggestion was addressed to the Officer commanding :—" On account of the prevalence of Cholera in the Army, and the necessity of adopting every possible sanitary precautions, I would beg to recommend that charcoal be placed under the boards of the men's huts, as well as under those of the Officers ; and I think this matter should be attended to without delay."

The men were now employed daily, in accordance with the terms of a district memorandum, issued on the 1st instant, in making gabions and fascines on the heights beyond the village of Kamara, about three miles distant from the Camp ; and, as they were ordered to return home at noon to dinner, it appeared very advisable not to expose them so much to the intense heat in their to and fro journies. Accordingly, the Surgeon addressed the following communication to the Major of Brigade on the subject :—

"SIR,—Six men have been brought to me after returning from making gabions, two of whom I fear will lapse into Cholera. This circumstance renders a suggestion necessary which I had intended to make to you yesterday, whether it could not be arranged for the men



who are engaged on that duty to be spared as much as possible from labour during mid-day. I would suggest that it would be very desirable if some arrangement could be made which would enable the men to get their dinners where the gabions are made, instead of having a journey to come for that purpose. My experience in Bulgaria prompts these remarks.

“Yours, &c.,

“JOHN WYATT.”

In the fortnightly report of the 3rd, it was recommended that the ration of rum issued daily to the men should be mixed with water, so as to prevent the possibility of their drinking the spirit in an undiluted state, which was considered by the Medical Officer as a most objectionable practice.

As the admissions from Cholera were now frequent, and as great difficulties were experienced in inducing the men to report their ailment during the premonitory stage of Diarrhoea, when treatment was likely to be of avail, the Surgeon, with the view of arresting the onset of the Diarrhoea (which generally, although not invariably, occurred as a premonitory symptom) in its most incipient stage, urged that every effort should be made on the part of the non-commissioned Officers to persuade the men to apply instantly at the Hospital when they perceived any relaxation of the bowels, so that no delay might ensue in administering a remedy to them. The pay-serjeants of each Company were provided with a box of pills, one or two of which they were directed to administer to any men who might complain of Diarrhoea

when on duty away from the Camp, so that they could not be sent to the Battalion Hospital. This slight precaution proved of great utility in many cases, and prevented the rapid onset of collapse which so generally ensued (during this visitation) after a prolonged attack of Diarrhœa.

The following note was addressed by the Surgeon to the Commanding Officer on the 11th :—

“SIR,—I think it desirable, with a view of checking any case of incipient Diarrhœa, that you would be pleased to issue an order, to the effect that all men of both wings be inspected by a Medical Officer daily before any of the duties mount in the morning, until further orders. By this means I feel sure that many cases of Diarrhœa could be detected, and thus prevented from lapsing into Cholera.

And with the view to give support to this recommendation, the Commanding Officer at once issued the following Battalion Order :—

“With the view of checking any case of incipient Diarrhœa, the Commanding Officer desires that there should be an inspection by a Medical Officer daily of both wings, before any of the duties mount in the morning. This is to be continued until further orders.”

On the 14th, the Major-General commanding the Brigade was attacked with a serious form of Diarrhœa, which at one time assumed all the symptoms of impending collapse, but after a few days yielded more to the efforts of nature, and the resources of a

vigorous frame of mind, than to the efficacy of the treatment adopted, which, however, was assiduously persevered in for forty-eight hours. The Adjutant had also been upon the verge of an attack of Cholera, but happily recovered.

Assistant-Surgeon Rogers arrived on the 15th from England.

To demonstrate the accuracy of some previous remarks, with reference to the impossibility which existed for a considerable period of tracing the sick who were sent down to Scutari during the early part of the winter, the following Head-Quarter Memorandum is here inserted :—

“ Lord W. Paulet is under the impression that the men named in the enclosed lists have died at Scutari at some period during the winter, as it has been ascertained that the burials exceeded the deaths which have been reported to regiments by about 550. It is requested that the lists may be returned to the Adjutant-General, with the date of each man's leaving his Regiment, as well as can be ascertained, and any other particulars that may be known respecting them, placed opposite their names.”

On the 17th, the following significant Divisional and Battalion Orders appeared :—

“ 1. There will be an inspection of the men's pouches this afternoon at such an hour as the Brigadier may select. Each man will receive twenty rounds of ammunition to carry in his haversack. The provisions for to-morrow will be cooked immediately.

“ 2. The Division will be under arms at 3 A.M. to-

morrow, as directed in the Head-Quarter Memorandum. The men will have their water canteens filled to-night. The formation will be on their private parades, quarter distance column, right in front. The conductor of the Field Train ammunition will take care to be ready with the column when it moves, with the reserve ammunition."

Battalion Order.—"The Battalion will parade at 3 A.M. to-morrow, arms and accoutrements, bearskin caps, &c., without great-coats or haversacks."

In compliance with the above orders, the Battalion, consisting of 22 officers and 488 men, with Assistant-Surgeons Wyatt, Rogers, and Dickson, marched to the plateau again, for the purpose of assisting at the projected assault on Sebastopol, which was about to occur on the following day. Three sick officers and 61 men were left behind, under the medical charge of Assistant-Surgeon Trotter, and 25 convalescents also remained for the purpose of assisting (with about the same number from the other two Battalions) in forming the Commissariat and Camp Guards, as the huts were not given up, and many of the effects, both of the officers and men, were deposited in them. Altogether there were 111 men thus abstracted from the effective strength of the Battalion, including sick in hospital, convalescents, orderlies, cooks, washing men, and a few otherwise employed. The former position occupied by the Brigade of Guards was now with difficulty recognised, as it was entirely occupied by French troops. The present Camp was pitched on an undulating dry site

about a mile nearer the crest of the plateau overlooking the plain of Balaklava.

During the unsuccessful attack on the Redan, the Brigade was in reserve of the troops engaged, and occupied a position in front of the Light Division Camp. In the evening, 263 men, with the due proportion of officers, were sent to the trenches, when one of the former was badly wounded.

As there had been no casualties in the Brigade on the 18th, Surgeon Blenkins of the Grenadier Guards, and Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt, were requested to perform some operations on the wounded of the different Regiments of the Line, who were rapidly being brought to the Field General Hospital, so ably superintended by Staff-Surgeon Mouat, whom they assisted in his overwhelming duties, for two successive days. As there was now a deficiency in the issue of fresh meat, the Medical Officer, in the bi-monthly report of the 18th instant, recommended that, as neither fresh meat nor vegetables were supplied sufficiently often, the salt meat should be issued to the men so as to allow of its being soaked in water for twenty-four hours previously to being cooked, and that a daily ration of lime-juice should be mixed with the rum previous to its issue to the men. The Brigade now recommenced to furnish its proportion of officers and men for the trench service, and several isolated cases of cholera occurred. On the 25th, the Hospital Marquees of the Brigade were removed to an adjoining site, which was more elevated, quiet, and about 1,200 yards to the North-west of the edge of

the plateau. The surface soil was the usual loam of the district, and the natural drainage was good. The Brigadier acquiesced in the proposal made to send all sick men to the Detachment Hospital at Balaklava, and, as far as possible, to isolate them from the wounded, who, as a general rule, were ordered to be treated in the Field Hospitals, and under the care of the senior medical officer of the Battalion. Consequently the sick were sent down to Balaklava from time to time, while others who became fit for duty were sent up to the front ; and there being now a superabundance of transport, and stores of all kinds, the means for the treatment of all, both sick and wounded, could hardly be improved. One great source of annoyance was the myriads of common flies, which abounded to a far greater extent than even in Bulgaria. Fly-nets for the sick, and a weak solution of creosote for the wounded, appeared to be the best means of alleviating this intolerable nuisance. A quantity of provisions and stores of a useful kind now arrived from England, and were sold to the men, under the arrangements of a committee of officers. 267 men were admitted into Hospital during the month, and 36 died. Of the admissions, 47 were from Fever, 168 from Diarrhœa, and 25 from Cholera ; and of the 36 deaths, 10 were from Fever, and 24 from Cholera. :

This concludes the fifth period of the Battalion's service, during which its mean strength on service was 797·75 men, and the mean monthly strength present in the field 560 ; the mean number of admissions per

month 138·75, the per centage of admissions to strength present 27·7, and the number of deaths in the Regimental Hospital 56, or an average of 14 per month. Of these, 26 were due to Cholera, 16 to Fever, and 10 to Diarrhœa.

On the 1st of July, 10 sick men were dispatched from the front to the Detachment Hospital at Balaklava, and on the 3rd, 11 men were invalided direct to England. Cholera continued prevalent, and in the fortnightly report of this date, it is recorded—"that every possible precaution has been adopted to check the premonitory symptoms of the disease, by daily inspections of every man off duty. Diarrhœa is still very prevalent, and the observations made in the previous return are again most strongly urged respecting the paucity of vegetable diet issued to the men. A proper quantity of succulent vegetable food is required at this season of the year, for the healthy performance of the vital functions, the deficiency of which, in my opinion, has materially predisposed to irritation of the bowels."

On the 4th, the author of this report was taken suddenly ill with symptoms resembling Cholera. After great suffering for several days, he was invalided to Scutari, and a few days after arrival there, he, and another officer (who was equally anxious to be present at the termination of the siege) made a conjoint application to the General Commanding the station for permission to undertake a voyage to Malta and back, in the hope that the invigorating effect of the sea breezes would afford them a chance of more speedy restoration

to health, and capability of returning to the Crimea, than appeared probable under the monotonous and debilitating influences of the sick wards, without the most perfect sanitary arrangements around. The effect of the voyage answered expectation, and on the 30th August both officers returned to Camp. The medical charge of the Battalion had in the meantime devolved upon Assistant-Surgeon Cay, the next senior Medical Officer, who had been summoned from detachment duty at the Monastery of St. George's (where a convalescent Hospital was in process of erection, by the carpenters of the Brigade of Guards).

During the month of July, there were 132 admissions from disease, and 20 from wounds in action ; among the former there were eight deaths, and among the latter, one. In August, the admissions from disease were 126, with five deaths ; and from wounds in action 15, with three deaths. Five amputations had been performed during the period ; and in the recorded observations it was stated, that diet appeared to have more influence than medicine in controlling the peculiar form of Diarrhoea then prevalent in Camp, As an evidence of which, it was remarked that, by confining a man to farinaceous substances, such as rice and arrow-root, a cure was more frequently effected, than by employing the ordinary alterative and astringent medicines. Porter had been issued to the men as a daily ration, instead of rum, for several weeks, but being sour, it was not considered advisable to continue the supply. When it was unavoidable, then it was suggested to neutralize the acidity, by furnishing to the



Quartermaster some bicarbonate of soda, to mix with the porter, in the proportion of five ounces of the alkali to a barrel containing 64 gallons. A more frequent supply of soft bread was urged in lieu of the hard biscuit, which, with the now increased frequency of the issue of salt beef and pork, was considered as predisposing to the very prevalent Bowel Complaints.

On the 24th of July, the hospital marquees were blown down ; and, in consequence, an urgent appeal was made for the erection of wooden huts. A gangrenous form of inflammation had attacked several of the wounded men while under treatment in Hospital, which was now well supplied with ice, and every other requisite for the comfort and recovery of the sick and wounded. The heat had been very great, and several of the officers had become affected with Fever and Diarrhoea, two of whom were sent on short leave of absence to Scutari for the recovery of their strength.

On the 25th of August an officer\* was shot through the chest by a rifle bullet, which entered behind, and was extracted in front, just below the left clavicle. Contrary to the general result of such cases, this officer, being of a very calm and unexcitable temperament, had not one single untoward symptom subsequently, and progressed very satisfactorily, without the internal administration of any medicines, except an occasional dose of opium at night. He enjoyed good nursing, and had been very judiciously treated by Assistant-Surgeon Cay ; but still he allowed himself to

\* Captain the Hon. Robert Drummond.

be impressed, by the constant entreaties of one or two over-zealous friends, that his chances of perfect recovery would be very much increased by leaving the Camp for England ; in this opinion, however, the Medical Officer in charge of the Battalion did not concur, and he therefore declined to take any part in this Medical Board, which, at the request of the patient and his friends, was summoned on the 3rd September to consider the state of the case, with reference to the question of removal from Camp. The members composing the Board rejected the proposition, as being at that time premature and likely to be unsafe ; but such was the dissatisfaction expressed by the patient and his friends at the result, that they were constant in their appeals for a re-consideration of the subject, which was acceded to on the 6th, when he expressed his willingness to relieve the members (then about to assemble) of every responsibility. His solicitations were now acceded to, and on the next day he left the Camp for Balaklava, and was placed on board a steamer under orders for England. Assistant-Surgeon Cay also accompanied him home, having obtained leave of absence on account of a domestic affliction, and failing health. The wounded officer appears to have progressed favourably until arriving at Gibraltar, when Diarrhœa attacked him, from which he became so much debilitated that he died just as the steamer anchored at Spithead, the wound being quite healed. It must be always a source of regret that when doing so well in Camp, he could not be induced to remain there.

On the 8th, at 12 A.M., the united assault on the

Redan and Malakoff took place. The Guards were in reserve, on account of having been in the trenches during the previous thirty-six hours. The Battalion returned to Camp, without any casualties, at 4 P.M., and during the two following days, Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt was requested again to assist Staff-Surgeon Mouat in performing operations at the General Hospital.

Large parties of men from the Brigade of Guards were employed, on the 13th, in removing the dead bodies of the Russians, which were discovered lying in a crowded and putrid state in one of the large buildings of the town, with several others wounded, but not quite dead. This duty was a trying one, but it was performed with the greatest tenderness and care. And with reference to the manner in which it had been performed the following order was promulgated as a Division Memorandum, on the 15th.

“The General Commanding the Forces, expresses, through Lieutenant-General Lord Rokeby, his regret at being obliged to employ the Brigade of Guards in the disagreeable fatigue duty of Thursday last, which, for the health of the Army, was absolutely necessary, and he was fully satisfied with the manner in which that duty was performed.”

On the 16th, twelve convalescents arrived from Balaklava, and ten invalids were sent to England.

On the 21st Assistant-Surgeon Trotter, having been ill with Fever, was sent to Scutari on sick leave for ten days. On the 21st ten more invalids were embarked

for England; and it was ascertained, that since June 20th until this date, 78 men had returned to their duty from the Detachment Hospital at Balaklava, and that 95 had been sent down from the front for treatment there during the same period. Seventy-seven men were admitted into Hospital during the month, of which number 12 were from wounds. The deaths were four only, two being from Fever, at Balaklava, and two from wounds, in the front.

During the month of September several of the cases of Fever assumed an intermittent character. On the 2nd of October, 24 convalescents arrived for duty from Balaklava, and on the next day seven invalids were sent to England. On the 4th, the fifth detachment of drafts arrived, consisting of 10 officers and 207 men, whose average age was 24 years, and service, fifteen months. They were principally volunteers from the Militia, and a remarkably fine body of men; not so tall as the original Guardsmen, but in every way better adapted for the exigencies of active service. With this draft the Battalion-Surgeon returned, who had been absent rather more than 12 months. On the following day two officers were invalided to England, one of them having returned to rejoin the Battalion in May, as previously stated, after having been sent home on account of the loss of his arm at the battle of the Alma.

The men were now constantly occupied (with a daily working pay of eightpence each) in the construction of roads to Balaklava and in the vicinity of the camps, under the able superintendence of the Assistant Quarter-

master-General of the Army,\* who was also an officer of the Coldstream Guards.

On the 10th, the command of the army was assumed by Lieutenant-General Sir William Codrington, who had embarked with the Battalion in February, 1854, as Senior Major.

On the 14th, one of the Sanitary Commissioners inspected the field arrangements for the Battalion Hospital. The Detachment Hospital at Balaklava was discontinued on the 11th, on which day all the sick, with the exception of a few who were about to proceed to England, were conveyed up to the front.

On the 15th, the explosion of the French Artillery park occurred, from the effects of which many of their gunners were severely wounded ; and, with the permission of the officer commanding the Battalion, Assistant-Surgeons Wyatt and Trotter placed their services at the disposal of the principal Medical Officer of the 2nd Corps d'Armée for the purpose of assisting at the necessary operations among the injured men. Two days afterwards, as a tribute for this small service, the following generous communication was forwarded, by desire of the Commander of the Forces, to the Principal Medical Officer of the army, for transmission to the Coldstream Guards :—

*“ Grand Quartier Général, Armée d'Orient,*

*“ 16 Novembre, 1855.*

“ Mon Général,— M. l'Intendant du 2me Corps d'Armée me rend compte qu'à la suite de l'explosion du magasin à poudre du parc d'Artillerie qui a eu lieu le

\* Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Arthur Hardinge.

15 de ce mois, MM. John Wyatt et John William Trotter, Medecins dans l'Armée Anglaise, sont venus offrir avec empressement leur soins à nos blessés. Je suis heureux, mon Général, d'avoir à porter à votre connaissance la conduite honorable de ces Officiers de santé et j'ai l'honneur de vous prier de vouloir bien leur transmettre mes sincères remerciements. Ce juste témoignage de gratitude aura pour eux bien plus de prix en passant par votre intermédiaire.

(Signé)

“ L'Intendant Général de l'Armée Française.

“ A. M. le Général-en-Chef de l'Armée Anglaise.”

Accompanying the above came the following communication from the Principal Medical Officer of the English army :—

“ *Head-Quarters, Camp, Crimea,*

“ *17th November, 1855.*

“ SIR,—By the Commander-in-Chief's desire, I have the honour to forward the enclosed letter of thanks from the Intendant-General of the French army, to you and Mr. Trotter for your aid to the French wounded on the 15th instant ; and in doing so, I beg to express to you and Mr. Trotter the pleasure it gives me to be made the medium of communicating this gratifying tribute to your professional zeal and humanity.

“ I have, &c.

(Signed)

“ J. HALL,

“ Inspector-General of Hospitals.”

“ Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt, Coldstream Guards.”

On the 17th Assistant-Surgeon Bowen arrived from England, having been lately appointed to the Regiment ; previously to which the Staff Assistant-Surgeon, who had been attached to the Battalion since April, was sent to the General Hospital at Scutari for duty.

The newly-constructed roads were as good as could be seen in any part of England, from which the greatest change ensued in the transport of sick compared with a similar period of 1854.

The weather, until the 16th of November, had continued quite fine and autumnal, and the temperature of the day was as perfect as could be desired. Several officers now obtained leave of absence to proceed to England "on urgent private affairs" for two months. There were several huts erected for the men, and two for the Hospital, at the end of the month, during which there had been fifty-four admissions, and four deaths, one being from the effects of injuries received by the accidental explosion of a small powder magazine in the Redan, while on fatigue duty there. Six bell-tents were appropriated for the purpose of a Brigade Prison Encampment, which was placed under the superintendence of a Sergeant of the Coldstream Guards, and regulations were promulgated in accordance with the spirit of those existing in military prisons in England. It was visited at 8 A.M. daily by a Medical Officer, and also by the Captain and Field Officer of the day, and the prisoners were employed as scavengers, in cleaning the camp, and at pack drill, &c.

Two hospital tents which had been recently erected,

and were occupied by a portion of the sick, were blown down on the 1st December. The weather had now become very cold, and on the 15th two of the sick, occupying a marquee, became frost-bitten.

Two days subsequently there was a heavy fall of snow. On the 18th the cold at night was very intense, ranging from  $2^{\circ}$  to  $4^{\circ}$  below zero ; and a picket sentry, who carried his bayonet without gloves, was severely frost-bitten in both hands. It was subsequently deemed proper by the majority of the Medical Officers present, to advise amputation, which was performed on the 28th, by removing the left hand, and all the fingers of the right.

During December there were 49 admissions, and two deaths ; and as this concludes the sixth assigned portion of service, it may be stated that the mean strength on service for the period was 814 men, the mean strength actually in the field 681, and the mean number of admissions per month  $87\cdot16$  ; the per centage of admissions to strength present per month being  $12\cdot8$ , and the number of deaths in the Regimental Hospital 32, or an average of  $5\cdot33$  per month.

During the six months which ensued from the commencement of January 1856, until the period of embarkation from the Crimea for England, the condition of the men, in every respect, both as regards amount of sickness and duties performed, was so much allied to a similar period passed in any garrison, that a detailed notice would be useless in this report, except so far as it would display an almost unprecedented amount of good health, compared with a period passed



at any of the out-quarters at which the Guards are stationed in England, and far better than obtains in the close and confined barracks of the metropolis.

To demonstrate the now comparatively healthy state of the Battalion, the following table is annexed, which shows the average number of daily sick under treatment, and the monthly number of deaths (exclusive of those from wounds) in the Field Hospital during a similar period of the two winter seasons passed in the Crimea, exclusive of convalescents and men excused duty.

Months.	Average Daily Sick. 1854-5.	Average Daily Sick. 1855-6.	Number of Deaths. 1854-5.	Number of Deaths. 1855-6.
November.....	90·73	32	11	3
December.....	80·2	20·45	17	2
January.....	61·3	22	35	3
February .....	50·8	20·28	17	1

For some time prior to the end of the year 1855, there was such an abundance of every kind of supply that scarcely any requirement remained for the Medical Officer in charge to suggest. On the 1st of March, the sixth and last detachment of drafts arrived, consisting of eight officers and 263 men, whose average age was  $23\frac{1}{2}$  years, and service 18 months: several of the officers had been in the Crimea previously, and the men were stout and robust, and, like those of the preceding draft, well adapted for all the possible requirements of service. On the 3rd, the three senior Assistant-Surgeons asked permission to assist the French Medical Officers at the neighbouring ambulance, where a large amount of sickness was prevailing; but their aid was politely declined.

The Medical Staff of the Battalion was now in excess, considering the small amount of sickness which existed; consequently on the 28th, Assistant-Surgeon Trotter was ordered to proceed to England, and was posted for duty there with the 2nd Battalion. On the 31st, at the request of the Principal Medical Officer of the Army, and with the permission of the Officer Commanding, Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt was detached from regimental duties, to aid M. Baudens, who had lately arrived in the Crimea, charged with a special mission from the French Minister-at-War, to inquire into the relative sanitary condition of the English and French Military Hospitals in the East. The whole of the Field Hospitals were inspected, and the most satisfactory conclusions drawn by the Inspector in favour of the detached system of Regimental Hospitals in the English army, compared with the congregated ambulance arrangements of the French; he was very favourably impressed with the Field Hospitals of the Guards, which he examined most minutely in all their details; and as at this time one of M. Soyer's excellent cooking stoves was in operation in the kitchen, there certainly did not appear to be anything wanting for either the comfort or convenience of the sick; indeed, except that the position might be considered a fixed one, the amount of field equipage existing was out of all proportion to the usual Hospital Stores of a moveable army, and would have been a great encumbrance had war continued, and the troops been ordered to take the field.

It is at least satisfactory for the Surgeons of the Brigade of Guards to know that the Sanitary Com-

missioners, on their visits of inspection to their Hospitals, found nothing of any practical nature to suggest, and the Chief Commissioner has placed on record in his report, which has lately been published for presentation to the House of Commons, the following detached observations :—

“ 1. The best example of a marquee Hospital was that belonging to the Guards, after they went to the front, in June, 1855. In laying it out a considerable area of porous, sandy soil, on a good elevation, was selected. It was trenched round to ensure dryness, and the marquees were arranged in parallel lines, at a distance from each other, a marquee in one line being opposite the interval between two marquees on the other, an arrangement admitting a free circulation of air. The interior of nearly all of the marquees was boarded, the boards being generally laid on joistings.

“ 2. Among the best examples of a winter camp which came under the notice of the Commission, during the winter of 1855, was that of the Brigade of Guards on the plateau, in the laying out of which great care and intelligence had evidently been bestowed. There was plenty of space for allowing the air to circulate, the arrangement of the huts was good, and the ground was well trenched and drained, and many of the huts raised on stone foundations.”

The above quoted remarks of approbation depended entirely, as far as the Coldstream Guards were concerned, upon the following cause, which is alluded to in a subsequent part of the Commissioners' report :—

“ The difference in the condition of the Camps ap-

peared to depend very much on the cordial understanding existing between Commanding Officers and Surgeons. Some were much better than others, and there were some Regimental Camps in regard to which it would have been difficult to have suggested improvements."

On the 27th of April, Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt was sent, with Staff-Surgeon Mouat, C.B., upon a mission of inquiry into the Hospital and transport arrangements of the Russian army. They were furnished with a letter to the Chief of the Russian Staff, with the concurrence of the Commander of the Forces, and during their absence from Camp, they minutely inspected the whole of the Field Hospitals, from the Mackenzie Heights to Bactchi Serai and Simpheropol. They were received most cordially by all the authorities to whom the nature of their instructions necessitated an application, and the result of their brief inquiries was embodied in a report, which was presented by the Director-General of the Army Medical Department to the Minister for War, and, subsequently, ordered to be laid before Parliament.

On the 4th of June, the Battalion embarked at Kamiesch, in Her Majesty's ship "Agamemnon," for England, and disembarked at Spithead, at six A.M., on the 28th, landing at Gosport, and proceeded by railway to the hutted encampment at Aldershot.

With the return of the Battalion to England, the seventh and last period of its service terminates, during which the mean average strength on service was 964·18 men, the mean number actually present in the field 886·1, and the mean number of primary admissions per month, for

the same period, 36·9; the per centage of admissions to strength present being 4·1, and the number of deaths in the Regimental Hospital 7, or an average of 1·14 per month.

A few days after arriving at Aldershot, the Battalion was inspected by the Colonel of the Regiment, two days subsequently, by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and, on the following day, by Her Majesty the Queen, who, in the midst of the assembled troops lately returned from the Crimea, welcomed them with the following address, which so gladdened the hearts of all present :—

“Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, I wish personally to convey, through you to the Regiments assembled here this day, my hearty welcome on their return to England in health and full efficiency.

“Say to them that I have watched anxiously over the difficulties and hardships which they have so nobly borne, that I have mourned with deep sorrow for the brave men who have fallen for their country, and that I have felt proud of that valour which, with their gallant allies, they have displayed in every field. I thank God that your dangers are over, whilst the glory of your deeds remains; but I know, that should your services be again required, you will be animated by the same devotion which, in the Crimea, has rendered you invincible.”

On the 9th of July, the three Crimean Battalions finally left Aldershot, and proceeded to London by railway, for the purpose of making a public entry into the metropolis, on which occasion they were received in Hyde Park by the four home Battalions of the House-

hold Brigade, and reviewed by Her Majesty in person, accompanied by the Colonels-in-Chief of the three Regiments, and, on the same afternoon, the following Brigade Order was issued :—

“The Field Officer in Brigade waiting has received the following orders from his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge :—

“His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge has received Her Majesty’s command, through the Adjutant-General, to express to the Brigade of Guards, Her Majesty’s entire satisfaction and approval of the appearance of the Brigade this day in the park, which he requests the Commanding Officers of Regiments will make known to the several Battalions under their command.”

The 1st Battalion of Coldstream Guards subsequently marched to the Tower, there to be quartered for the ensuing six months; and, two days afterwards the author of this imperfect report, applied for, and obtained three months’ leave of absence. Connected with the circumstance of the return to London of the Brigade, the following considerate morning order was circulated on the 11th July :—

“The Canon in residence at Westminster Abbey has signified, through his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, to the Field Officer in waiting, that if any of the Guards should desire to attend the service at Westminster Abbey on Sunday afternoon next, to offer thanks to Almighty God for their safe return to England, some accommodation will be reserved for them, and an anthem be sung by the choir suitable to the occasion.”

## GENERAL DEDUCTIONS.

The 1st Battalion of Coldstream Guards was absent on foreign service for two years and 126 days, which were passed at the different stations in the following proportion of the time :—

At Malta .....	48 days.
At Scutari .....	45 "
In Bulgaria .....	75 "
In the Crimea .....	627 "
At Sea .....	61 "

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856 days, or two years and 126 days.

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The strength on embarkation from England was 35 officers and 919 rank and file ; and during the entire period of service reinforcements to the amount of 50 officers and 1,141 rank and file were sent out to the service companies, making a total of 85 officers and 2,060 rank and file who served during the campaign ; but of this number 12 of the officers joined a second time, after having been sent home either on duty or on account of medical or surgical disabilities.

Three officers\* and 269 men of the original Battalion served throughout the entire campaign, and 4 other officers† remained till after the fall of Sebastopol.

The mean strength per month absent from England on service for the entire period, as shewn in the annexed

\* Captain Goodlake, Assistant-Surgeon Wyatt, and Quarter-master Falconer.

† Captains Armytage, Sir James Dunlop Bart., Crawley, and Tower.

Table, was 909·7, and the mean strength actually present in the field, 738·8 ; the total number of primary admissions from all causes into the Regimental and General Hospitals was 3,100, of which number 2,785 were from disease, 243 from wounds received in action, and 73 from accidental injuries.

The total number of deaths among the men was 618, of which 54 were from wounds, and 564 from disease ; the proportion per cent. of deaths to admission being, for wounds 22·22, and for disease 2·02. Of the deaths, 254 occurred with the Battalion, exclusive of those killed in action and in the trenches, while the remaining 364 occurred at the various General Hospitals, or on board ship.

Of the total number sent out, viz., 38 officers and 2,060 men, it thus appears that 4 officers and 81 men were killed in action, 5 officers and 54 men died of wounds inflicted by the enemy, and 3 officers and 564 men died of disease ; making a total loss by death from all causes of 12 officers and 699 men. Six officers and 65 men were invalided home on account of wounds received in action, and 16 officers and 187 men on account of disease : and 111 men were finally discharged the Service on account of disabilities contracted during service in the East, 59 from the effects of wounds, and 52 from those of disease.

Of the total number of primary admissions, viz., 3,100, the most important may be thus classified :—



Disease.	Admissions from.	Proportion per cent. to the total number of Admissions from Disease.	Deaths from.	Proportion per cent. of total Mortality.
Fevers .....	646	20·83	142	22·97
Pulmonic .....	125	4·03	19	3·07
Dysenteric .....	52	1·67	62	10·03
Diarrhoea .....	1,235	39·83	196	33·71
Cholera .....	134	4·03	97	15·69
Gelatio .....	56	1·80	21	3·39
Scorbutus .....	67	2·16	8	1·29
Wounds in Action ..	243	7·84	54	8·73
	2,558; or	82·5 per cent. of the entire number of Admissions from Disease.	599; or	97 per cent. of the total Mortality.

Thirty capital operations were performed at the Field Hospitals of the Battalion in the Crimea, besides many others of a less important character. The majority of the former were the result of the Battle of Inkermann, and for strategical reasons were compelled to be embarked in crowded transports at Balaklava, on the days immediately succeeding the action; 10 died very shortly after reaching the General Hospital at Scutari; and nearly the whole of the secondary amputations which were performed there terminated fatally within a few days after, but no particulars ever reached the Battalion.

The detailed return of diseases displays the remarkable and fortunate circumstance of the total absence in the Regimental Hospitals of two diseases, Ophthalmia and Hospital Gangrene, which in the Penin-

sular and former wars were so great a scourge to the Army ; and this immunity could not depend solely upon the salubrity of the Crimean climate, inasmuch as some of the Field Hospitals of the French Army abounded with these diseases in an aggravated form. Much was, no doubt, due to the hygienic and sanitary principles, which were so repeatedly urged upon the attention of Regimental Surgeons by the principal Medical Officer of the Army.

The same return also demonstrates an unusually small proportion of admissions from another class of diseases, "Pulmonic and Rheumatic," which, under the conditions in which the men were existing during the first winter, might have been supposed likely to be prevalent ; whereas the admissions for Pulmonary Affections only numbered 125, or 4·03 per cent. of the total number of admissions into Hospital, while the number of Rheumatic Affections admitted during the entire period were but 45, or 1·45 per cent. of the whole. The most severe cases of Pneumonia, occurred during the second winter, when the condition of the men was more allied to that of barrack life, and when they were occasionally exposed to great variations of temperature from the often over-heated huts ; but flannel shirts having been issued to every man of the Battalion, it may be fairly supposed that they afforded a great protection from both classes of the disease here alluded to.

The contrast with reference to the infrequency of Pulmonary Affections amongst the men while on active service, compared with the number of that class of disease which would have probably occurred in a

Battalion of Guards stationed in one of the London barracks, displays the influence of pure air, freedom from the monotony of barrack life, and absence from over-crowded and ill-ventilated sleeping rooms, combined with the protecting influence of flannel under-clothing, in producing an immunity from that protean disease, Pulmonary Consumption, which is the most frequent of all the causes of invaliding and premature mortality amongst the Non-commissioned Officers and men of the Foot Guards in London, and so effectually resists in its onward progress all the resources of the Medical Officers. It appears that while 187 Non-commissioned Officers and men were invalided home on account of disease, only 12 of that number were affected with Pulmonary Consumption, or 6·41 per cent. of the total; and on the other hand, there were several instances of the incipient stage of this disease being entirely arrested, both amongst the officers and men while abroad, in whom, since returning to England, it has resumed its activity, and advanced to a fatal issue.

It is essential to the completion of a Report of this nature, that a brief description of the causes and general character of the more prevalent diseases should be given; also that the usual symptoms of the principal diseases which have been alluded to, as chiefly affecting the men while on service, should be particularized, and that a few observations should be offered (in accordance with the request of the Director-General) on the nature of the climate, diet, water, clothing, shelter, cooking, transport, &c., which, in the opinion of the author, founded upon

his experience gained during the campaign, may have in any way tended to excite disease ; and further, that any possible modification or improvement which might tend to diminish the chances of similar results, occurring to the same extent in a future campaign, in which the Brigade of Guards might be engaged, should be suggested. It is also manifest that the value of numerical medical returns is in proportion to the correct statistical information which can be deduced from them by the superintending authorities ; but this is much diminished in the present day by the obsolete and unscientific nomenclature still preserved by the Army Medical Department, the classification of which is not in accordance with modern pathological discoveries, nor sanctioned by scientific practice, and may have led to grievous errors.

Without ignoring the admitted fact that a certain amount of hardship, privation, and disease, must as a matter of necessity attend a state of war in an enemy's country ; yet the circumstances under which the Brigade of Guards, in common with the rest of the Army, was placed during the winter of 1854-5, were such as of themselves directly to induce a great accession of disease ; and although the men did not suffer from an absence of food, yet it was for a long period unvaried in its saline nature, and if not rejected entirely as unpalatable, was, with the green coffee, often partaken of in a raw or partially cooked state ; consequently, the men were insufficiently nourished ; and this, combined with the absence of proper clothing and shelter, and aided by the uninterrupted succession of harassing

duties during inclement weather, reduced their powers of resistance, and rendered them readily susceptible of the exciting causes of disease. The symptoms attending the prevailing diseases in the Crimea were all more or less characterized by exhaustion of the vital powers: the system was depressed, and all reaction slowly and imperfectly performed; the constitution being once impaired, retained the morbid taint for a long time, and could not eliminate it. The prevailing types of disease plainly indicated, and as urgently called for, a generous and stimulating plan of treatment; but during the second winter passed in the Crimea the general character of disease was entirely changed, and more sthenic action was constantly observed; still, however, the system of the men would not bear with impunity any extensive or long-continued general depressing measures. The means of ventilation, already very defective, were rendered still more nugatory by the men themselves, who were imbued with the common prejudice of soldiers in that respect.

The want of sufficient transport for the early removal of the sick from camp, caused much overcrowding of the Hospital tents and marquees, which thus became surcharged with a poisonous atmosphere, and reacted in a deleterious manner upon the character of the diseases; the greater the impediments to removal, the more concentrated became the poison, as was manifested during the first winter, when men suffering from frost-bitten feet became soon affected with the prevailing Camp Diarrhoea, after becoming inmates of the crowded Hos-

pital marquees. The chief cause of the comparative want of success, even as regards the operations performed in the Field Hospitals, appears to have been due to the low type of diseased action, which attended all the more severe cases.

There can be no doubt that the campaign in Bulgaria produced disease amongst the men, on a large scale ; but this was rather attributable to the effects of the climate, and perhaps to the unhealthy locality of the encampments, than to any of the preventible causes which existed subsequently in the Crimea. One of the predisposing causes of disease in Bulgaria was doubtless the kind of diet consumed, which should have been more adapted, both in kind and quality, to the food of the natives ; for, even as regards the stalwart Guardsman, the same amount of animal food is not required, in a hot climate, to preserve health and strength, as in England, a large and regular supply of which, instead of giving strength, only heats the blood, renders the system feverish, and consequently weakens the body ; but it may be as well to state that after repeated and anxious consideration, both during and since the war, there appears to be no sound reason for arriving at the conclusion which has often been expressed, that the excessive mortality which occurred amongst the Guards, was due either to their peculiar stature, or dress, when compared with other branches of the army.

*Fevers* appear first on the list of the diseases specified in table No. 1, of which 646 cases were admitted for treatment during the entire period, being 20.83 per

cent. of the total number of admissions from disease. During the early part of the campaign every case presented the appearances and symptoms of the common continued variety ; but with the onset of the very hot weather in Bulgaria, low fevers, with cerebral complications, ensued ; and during the winter of 1854-5, many of the cases assumed the typhoid type, while others presented the characters of genuine typhus, displaying, to a great extent, the same maculated appearances as were observed during the epidemics in Ireland, and which were so vividly impressed upon the author of this report, during his former service there.\* The conditions under which the troops existed in the Crimea combined to produce a like result, and the similarity in many of the cases was remarkable. During the months of May and June at Balaklava, many of the cases of Fever assumed the remittent form ; and during the second winter, when the men were huddled, and in good condition, the cases re-assumed the characters of the common continued variety, while during the summer months of 1856 several cases of intermittents occurred. The commencing symptoms of an attack were often indicative of considerable gastric derangement ; the tongue at first creamy, very soon became tremulous, with a clammy skin, and a quick, irritable pulse ; then would often ensue a remarkable state of general irritability and restlessness, till the fully developed character of the affection was realized. If the case now proved to be one of Typhoid Fever,

\* In the 5th Dragoon Guards.

with the accompanying secondary affection of the bowels, we were either obliged to return it under the head of Typhus Fever, or under that of Diarrhoea, because Follicular Enteritis, or Typhoid Fever, is not recognized in the antiquated nomenclature of diseases in use for the medical returns of the Army.

As a consequence of Medical Officers being obliged to designate a disease by a name which is not applicable to it, not only are the returns in many instances rendered erroneous, but there is reason to believe that errors in treatment are thereby sometimes originated ; for to treat a case of genuine Typhoid Fever, either in accordance with the views adapted to true Typhus or to Diarrhoea, could only have rendered the convalescence more tedious than is usually the case in this affection, even if it did not produce more fatal results. It was quite a fallacy to suppose that any peculiar form of Fever was endemic to the Crimea.\* *Post-mortem* examinations revealed nothing unusual, or at variance with the morbid appearance generally observed in this class of affections.

2. *Pulmonary Diseases* have been previously alluded to at page 101.

3. *Dysentery*, as a rule, may be said to have been a rare affection amongst the men of the Coldstream Guards, only 52 cases having been admitted during the whole period of service in the Field Hospitals, or 1·67 per cent. of the total admissions. They were all of the acute form, and in four instances only termi-

\* This was generally believed in England, to have been the case.



nated in death ; 23 of the number occurred during the first winter ; and these cases were so intimately connected with the general Scorbutic Diathesis, that they were usually designated by the unscientific but expressive term *Scorbutic Dysentery*, which applied very aptly to the general depressed and scorbutic condition presented during life, as well as to the *post-mortem* appearances, which were characterized by the absence of the peculiar results which are displayed in Acute Dysentery. It was very rarely that any traces of ulcerative action were observed, but patches of dark petechiæ beneath the intestinal mucous membrane were almost constant, to a greater or less extent, and sometimes involving the colon. Several instances of genuine Acute Dysentery, however, did occur, and one or two very remarkable recoveries happily ensued, as in the case of Lieut.-Col. Crombie, the officer previously alluded to as having been left behind at Aladyn, when the Battalion marched away. For several days his chances of recovery seemed hopeless ; but happily, after being carried on board ship with the author of this Report (who was similarly but less severely affected), he gradually improved, and ultimately fully recovered. Fifty-nine deaths appear to have occurred from the chronic form of the disease at the General Hospitals, while under that head none were admitted in Camp. Many of these, in the utter absence of any statement of the cases, may be supposed to have been purely secondary lesions engrafted upon other forms of disease. And it was indeed most fortunate that the epidemic form of Acute Dysentery

did not attack the Army as during former wars ; but the immunity from this fearful scourge during the Eastern Campaign was no doubt attributable to the measures resulting from the great confidence properly reposed by the Commanding Officers of Battalions in the suggestions and advice of their Surgeons, aided also by the clearly defined and scientific sanitary suggestions promulgated by the Principal Medical Officer of the Army.

*Diarrhœa* was the most numerically important of all forms of disease, and its frequency is represented by the number 1,235 during the period of service, or 39·83 per cent. of the total admissions : for medico-statistic considerations, this is not a term desirable, nor is it in accordance with true pathological nomenclature ; for it was generally but one symptom of a great class of diseases, the especial characteristic of which was looseness of the bowels ; sometimes it was quite impossible, during life, to determine what particular organ had been primarily effected, to rectify the abnormal condition of which, the attention of the Surgeon was of course directed ; at one period, nearly every disease was accompanied by this symptom, and a great number of both officers and men, although they remained at their duty, were more or less affected with it for a considerable period of the first winter, when the daily diet was devoid of the due admixture of vegetable material. The majority of the men belonging to the drafts who arrived during that period, complained of it soon after disembarking ; it was a kind of acclimatization which

they all seemed destined to undergo ; and it was liable to be attended with danger in proportion as Cholera was prevalent or not. There was one form of Diarrhœa of a serious and chronic character, which in process of time made great havoc upon the men's stamina and condition ; a man would frequently be affected with it for a long time, and, not suffering any pain or inconvenience, would not apply for medical aid, till at last he found himself totally unable from debility to perform his duties ; he would even then make no complaint, except of sudden and frequent relaxation of the bowels, and say that his food, such as it was, did him no good ; he became emaciated, and generally consumed his rations with great reluctance ; sometimes a feverish condition existed, but more generally no actual condition of disease could be discovered, except that the surface of the body was much below the natural temperature, and the dejecta liquid and free from bilious admixture ; he would complain of no kind of pain, and wonder why the proposal to admit him into Hospital should be made. If he happened to be a man originally sent out with the Battalion, his legs and gums would generally present evidence of scorbutic contamination ; and in every case a great intolerance of the action of remedies ordinarily administered for Diarrhœa appeared to have been engendered. If, on admission into the Field Hospital, a man in this condition should happen to be attacked with Frost-bite, or Fever, he was almost certain to succumb ; in fact, it was found that his life was much less jeopardised by his being allowed to remain out of

Hospital as a convalescent, affording him in the meantime a farinaceous diet of rice and arrowroot, from the Hospital kitchen, three times daily, and this appeared to act better than all medicines. No class of cases more urgently demanded instant removal from camp life, or more speedily improved, if too long a period had not elapsed before removal. *Post-mortem* appearances either revealed an absence of anatomical lesions, with a pallid and anæmic condition of the whole intestinal tract, or else the mucous membrane of the small intestines displayed patches of hæmorrhagic extravasation beneath the surface, with congestion of the portal system.

5. *Cholera*.—The number of admissions for this disease into the Field Hospitals was 118, and the deaths 75, while 16 primary admissions into the General Hospitals took place, and 22 deaths occurred among patients while under treatment there, making a total of 134 admissions and 97 deaths, or 72·39 per cent. of the cases treated. It attacked the Battalion on two well-defined and separate occasions, each being connected with evident meteorologic phenomena : the first time in Bulgaria, when the loss by death was 28 ; and the second time, while stationed at Balaklava, during the spring and summer of 1855, when the deaths were 26. Several isolated cases occurred subsequently, and, as in all epidemics of this scourge, the recoveries were few at the onset of each, nearly every case being fatal, no matter what treatment was adopted ; but as the virulence of the disease subsided, the cases were less speedily fatal, and remedial aid appeared to be of some avail in

controlling the issue ; and when thus employed towards the close of an epidemic, certain drugs obtained a reputation in the hands of some Surgeons, which, when subsequently administered by others at the commencement of an outbreak, proved as utterly futile as any of those previously employed.

According to the experience of the Surgeons in the Brigade of Guards, when the intensity of the poison, or miasm producing the disease was great, the efforts to relieve the symptoms were very seldom attended with success. As individual experience respecting a disease of such vital moment as Cholera, can only become useful when corroborated by the testimony of others, in affording an approach to scientific principles of treatment, the author cannot refrain from offering his very humble testimony in favour of the cold douche, followed by friction continuously employed, and combined with small doses of camphor and calomel internally, with iced water to quench the thirst. This mode of treatment on several occasions, even when the men were admitted in the most extreme collapse, with cramps, lividity of the skin, and suppression of urine, appeared to produce for a time the most satisfactory results ; the cramps would subside, and the whole cutaneous surface became red and vascular from the effects of the reaction after the cold douche (which was sometimes repeated a second time), and the pulse would become stronger. Unhappily, however, this arrest was generally only of short duration ; and if the case happened to be one of those occurring during the first period of an epidemic, the symptoms on

admission soon returned and terminated in death. According to the experience gained during the Crimean war, opium and large quantities of stimulants, internally administered, were most objectionable ; and the author of this report cannot refrain from urging upon the serious attention of the Director-General of the Army Medical Department, the consideration of the treatment here alluded to, if only to ascertain whether any similar testimony has been adduced by other Army Surgeons.

Most of the fatal cases of Cholera which occurred in the Coldstream Guards were admitted at night or early in the morning, after the men had been on duty, from some of whom, it was with difficulty elicited, that there had been previously a tendency to relaxation of the bowels. But Diarrhœa was not an invariable precursor of an attack ; in several of the cases which were most suddenly fatal, the men were struck down by the virulence of the disease, without any previous affection of the bowels whatever, but habits of intemperance appeared always to be a very unfavourable item in considering the prognosis ; in fact, whatever depressed the vital powers appeared peculiarly to predispose to an attack. Many of the cases returned as Diarrhœa during the first winter campaign would probably have been, by some surgeons, termed Cholera ; but, to the mind of the author, they were eminently different. The only element which could possibly assimilate the two diseases was that of collapsed countenance and imperfect cramps, whereas the genuine symptoms most truly diagnostic of Cholera, viz., vomiting and suppression of urine, were generally

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absent. Hence a discrepancy which will, no doubt, appear in the returns of this disease from different regiments placed under similar circumstances.

Without alluding to circumstances which might be said to be fallacious, or asserting that Cholera is contagious, yet it can hardly be denied, that upon two or three occasions there did appear to be a fatal influence exerted on patients affected with other diseases, after being placed in the same tents with others affected with Cholera.

The importance of sanitary considerations, of daily inspections, and of amusements for the men, during an invasion of Cholera, cannot be too urgently pressed on the minds of Commanding Officers; as the detection and treatment of an incipient form of Diarrhoea has, no doubt, in many instances, obviated a fatal attack, and cheerful occupations have tended to remove that mental despondency and apprehension which are known to have such a prejudicial effect, and even, sometimes, are considered as a predisposing cause of the disease when prevalent.

6. *Gelatio*, for which disease 56 men were admitted, and from its effects 21 died—15 of this number at the General Hospitals. So large a number of cases would not have occurred had the men been in a more vigorous state of body, and less debilitated by constitutional causes; and it may be remarked that the most extensive implication of structures happened when the patients within the Hospital tents were attacked. In these fatal cases, Nature appeared unable to form any defined and perfect line of demarcation between the dead and living

structures, and during the attempt the constitutional irritation often became so great, from the absorption of decomposing matter, that death resulted, without affording any opportunity for surgical interference ; indeed it appeared to be the general opinion of the principal surgeons of the allied armies that, under these circumstances, except to promote gentle detachment of the dead and putrid structures, any other operative interference was quite unjustifiable. Such was the opinion unanimously given upon one occasion, when two of the best surgeons of the French army were invited to assist at a consultation upon the case of a soldier who had been admitted into Hospital for Diarrhœa, and who was subsequently attacked with Frost-bite, which involved one leg as high as the centre of the sural muscles : he was comparatively strong ; but it was considered that a far greater effort would be thrown upon the powers of his system by amputating the leg, than by aiding the efforts at detachment after a line of demarcation had been formed ; this never became perfect, and he subsequently died from exhaustion.

7. *Scorbutus*.—Of this disease 67 genuine and unmistakeable cases were admitted, and from its effects eight deaths occurred, of which five were in the General Hospitals ; but, as previously stated, many diseases were so intimately associated with it, that a large portion of the mortality which occurred in the Battalion clearly owed its primary origin to the debility and general depression accompanying the scorbutic diathesis. This affection, *per se*, appeared in the Cold-



stream Guards, to be developed in two very different forms, each displaying perhaps different degrees of the same affection, but having a far different prognosis as regarded ultimate recovery: in one which may be termed the more local form, there would be several large and indurated patches of ecchymosis, as from a violent bruise, and usually situated at the flexures of the joints, as at the elbow, or behind the knee: and accompanied by stiffness and pain, chiefly complained of in the same parts. There would be little evidence of a tumid state of the gums, or of the peculiar purpuric spots on the extremities; the aspect also of the man was generally less indicative of a wasted and anæmic condition than was observable in the second variety. These cases, after a short residence in the Field Hospital tents, indifferent as was the accommodation they afforded, combined with the effort on the part of the Surgeon to compensate for the deficient element in the daily diet, and under the local application of fomentations, generally improved so much, that the men returned to their duty; whereas the other form was far more serious, both in its immediate and remote effects, the men invariably looked haggard and pale, with a spongy state of the gums, and the surface of the body covered with purpuric spots, those on the lower extremities often coalescing to form small ulcers, which were most intractable. Diarrhœa often existed, and in very many cases owed its origin entirely to this form of Scurvy, which appeared to imply a general constitutional taint, or an aggravated degree of the first form, and modified the character of almost

all other diseases in camp ; indeed, this diathesis once fully established appeared to exist long after the deficiencies in the supposed requisite ingredients were amply supplied—as in the summer of 1855. The salt provisions were by many supposed to have been the sole cause of the large amount of Scurvy affecting the men ; but uniformity of almost any diet, combined with the same amount of fatigue, hardship, and exposure, will produce a vitiated state of the blood, and similar external appearances to those presented by the men in the Crimea ; nor can the almost total absence of vegetable food be supposed to have been without great influence in the production of this disease. .

*Climate.*—As regards Bulgaria, little need be said, except that the topographical conditions of the camp appear to have had more to do with the production of disease than any effects of the climate ; and with reference to the Crimea, the principal causes of disease amongst the men were certainly not due to the influence of climate, which was understood to be considered by the native Tatars as exceedingly healthy ; and the best proof that this conclusion was correct is to be found in the paucity of admissions from those diseases which are known to depend chiefly on climatic impressions. The same conclusions were deduced by the author from inquiries made respecting the peculiar diseases affecting the natives, while on his mission of inquiry into the interior of the Crimea.

The temperature was not excessive, and, except under the circumstances of a campaign, would not have been

felt so ; the thermometer rarely indicated a greater degree of heat than 95 in the shade during the summer ; and on the plateau the usual summer temperature was from 80 to 85 degrees.

One peculiar character of the temperature was its extreme variability during the latter part of the autumn and the early winter months, a difference of 20 degrees being sometimes noticed in the twelve hours. During the latter part of the month of September and the month of October, the climate was perhaps as perfect as could be desired.

*Diet.*—One great error was doubtless made, as previously stated, in not assimilating the diet of the men more to that consumed by the natives ; and also in supposing that animal food and stimulating drinks were as much required in Turkey as in England ; or that the same amount of real nutriment could not be obtained from farinaceous articles, such as constituted a certain portion of the Turkish and Russian soldiers' diet ; who are well nourished, vigorous, and as capable of undergoing all the fatigues of active service as British soldiers.

It is impossible that any body of men can be deprived for any considerable time of vegetable food, or its elementary principles, without undergoing a marked deterioration of health ; and it is to be regretted that lime-juice could not have been issued at an earlier period of the campaign, as a part of the soldier's daily ration, and as a compensating substitute for the deficiency of succulent vegetable matter. It is to be hoped that the dictates of experience will here-

after induce the authorities to permit several additional articles not now supplied (such as flour, rice, peas, and preserved vegetables,) to be issued frequently, even at the expense of deducting some part of the amount of animal food; and these articles, not being of a perishable nature, could be transported to any locality, and would thus render the men, to a certain extent, less dependent on the resources of an enemy's country, or the neighbouring friendly coasts, while it is fair to anticipate that one predisposing cause of disease would be materially diminished.

The question of the immunity of the Officers from Scurvy on service, and, consequently, their greater powers of resistance to the encroachments of general disease, can only be explained by their ability, at the earliest possible opportunity, to purchase supplies, and thus to counteract any constitutional effects which might have been commencing from a monotonous diet.

Considerable difference of opinion exists amongst military surgeons respecting the propriety of issuing spirits as a daily ration to soldiers while on service; and although the author's original impressions were somewhat in favour of a continuance in the old custom, yet after more matured experience, and from inquiries into the system pursued in the Royal Navy, he is completely disabused of the idea that raw spirits are either a restorative after great fatigue, or a preventive of Cholera or other disease, and he believes that a predisposition to the last-named disease, was in some cases acquired in Bulgaria and at Balaklava, by the habit of drinking

raw spirits early in the morning upon an empty stomach, the effects of which passed off very soon, and left the men more depressed than previously ; it would have been far better if they had partaken of a cup of hot coffee or chocolate, under the circumstances ; but the prejudices of the English soldier are difficult to overcome. Although not a recognised article of diet in the army, there is no doubt that a small quantity of tobacco issued daily to the soldier would have been very desirable. It has, in many instances, appeased the cravings of hunger, both amongst the officers and men, at particular times, when the food was not most palatable ; and the comfort of a smoke in the trenches was not to be despised, except by those unacquainted with the soothing influence of the weed.

*Water Supply.*—Little need be said on this subject, as its quality was generally excellent. There was no material impurity, except what originated from artificial contaminations, arising from the manner in which it was collected and distributed ; but precautions necessary in this respect, as regards the healthy, became doubly so with reference to the sick, and, for that reason, it would be always desirable that every Field Hospital should have the means of filtering the water consumed.

Although somewhat foreign to the purport of this report, yet, while considering the subject of water and its contaminations as a cause of disease, the following copies of an official correspondence are adduced to show

how unnecessarily the valuable time of the Medical Officers was sometimes consumed in replying to communications instituted by individuals anxious to constitute themselves judges of the efficient performance of the duties of other departments than their own ; and this is but one of many examples which occasionally afflicted the Surgeon of the Coldstream Guards during the war.

*“ Head-Quarters, Camp, Crimea,  
“ February 7, 1856.*

“ The Rev. Francis Cannon, Military Chaplain, has forwarded a report to the Minister of War of the outbreak of Cholera which took place in the 72nd Regiment, in July last, in which he ascribes the virulence of the complaint to the period of the year at which the men arrived, to bad water, and over-crowding the tents, together with improper food ; and recommends that men should be sent out to the Crimea in the months of January, February, and March.

“ The Director-General of the Army Medical Department wishes to know if the men who arrived in the early part of the year suffered less from Cholera and other diseases than those who came later, and if the water was as impure and pernicious as represented by Mr. Cannon, who states that, if allowed to stand a week, insects were generated, and seen crawling about in it.

“ I have, &c.

(Signed)

“ J. HALL,

“ Inspector-General of Hospitals.”

*" Camp, Brigade of Guards,  
February 15, 1856.*

" SIR,—With reference to the queries contained in the circular memorandum of February 7th, I beg to state that, according to my experience, the charge of the Rev. Cannon will be easily exploded by those Medical Officers who have been present in the Crimea, when the various drafts have arrived. It happens that the drafts of the Coldstream Guards which arrived at the early part of last year, were more speedily attacked by Cholera, than those of any subsequent period, and I consider, from my own observations, as well as from the concurrent testimony of others with whom I have communicated on the subject, that the months best adapted for the arrival of troops in the Crimea are April, and October, when the men get somewhat acclimatized, and accustomed to camp life, prior to either the setting in of the excessive heat of summer, or the cold of winter ; and this I conceive to be the true principle to be kept in view. As regards the impurity of the water, perhaps the Rev. Cannon had not taken the trouble to test his fallacious experiment by observing the appearances presented by water in England under similar circumstances ; if so, I am led to believe that he would consider that water, kept at rest in a vessel for a week, would seldom present a very favourable aspect. I have, in a general way, examined the water repeatedly, which we have been enabled to procure in the neighbourhood of our several encamp-

ments, and I must confess that I have been greatly surprised at its freedom from any palpable impurities.

“ I have, &c.

(Signed) “ JOHN WYATT.”

“ Dr. Hall, Inspector-General of Hospitals.”

*Clothing.*—This is a most important consideration with reference to the health of the soldier both at home and abroad, and it is one which has not yet received its due share of attention. It is manifest that the kind of clothes worn by the soldiers should be somewhat modified by the climate in which they are to serve, and that, during a campaign, every possible provision should be made to protect them from the vicissitudes of the weather, which they may possibly have to encounter ; and, probably, the most important of all considerations in this respect is the texture of the clothing worn next the skin, which should always be of flannel instead of cotton ; and the more variable the climate, the more important does this suggestion become. During the war, the men were required, by a General Order, to wear flannel belts, which were freely supplied ; yet many of them neglected to do so, and, in consequence, often suffered from an attack of Diarrhœa, when on night duty in the trenches, as at that time there was often a great diminution in the temperature. The officers and all the old soldiers wore flannel throughout the campaign ; it was only the young soldiers who were negligent of this precaution, and who would



constantly omit to obey the injunctions issued in this respect, and as a consequence were frequently attacked with Diarrhœa or Cholera on the first night afterwards. But the consideration of flannel under-clothing is of more importance in the United Kingdom, and more especially to the Guards, who generally serve in London, where there is always a large amount of pulmonary disease prevalent, chiefly, no doubt, produced by the crowded and ill-ventilated state of the Barrack-rooms, combined with the absence of a proper system in the arrangement of the men's clothing, who, with the exception of the trowsers, wear the same in winter as in summer, and go on guard in the sultry nights of August in the same clothes as during the inclement and cold nights of December, without any difference in the protection afforded to the chest by increase of warm clothing. No flannel under-clothing, or suitable watch-coats for sentry duty, are provided to guard against the vicissitudes of the variable London climate during the winter portion of service. As a natural result of this want of precaution, the mortality and invaliding from pulmonary, compared with any other class of diseases, is very high ; and to prove what pure air, freedom from the foul emanations of drains and excitement of the mind will effect towards reducing that class of diseases, it may be stated that during the severe winter of 1854-5, when the men were badly clothed, fed and housed, the admissions from all varieties of thoracic disease, from November 1st to March 31st, were only 32, or 3·54 per cent. of the total number of admissions during that period,

which is the most prolific in England for their production. From these considerations it appears evident that, although cotton shirts may be continued in use, as at present, during the summer season, yet that during the winter, flannel shirts should invariably be substituted for them, if not worn throughout the year.

The bearskin caps are not so heavy as many people suppose, being only 1lb. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz., but they are inconvenient head-dresses for active service. Still there was no evidence that they predisposed, in any way, to disease. A light and well-ventilated felt helmet would be, perhaps, a better substitute for the field.

The regulation stock was an abominable appendage to the soldier's kit while on service in a hot climate, and numerous instances occurred, on the line of march, demonstrating how much the men suffer from its injurious constriction of the neck.

The tunic appears to be certainly one of the best dresses which could have been devised, either for home or foreign service, and a vast improvement over the scanty coatee with epaulettes.

As regards trowsers, however becoming the present pattern may be for parade in England, they are not adapted for the exigencies of active service, particularly when, as in the Crimea, the men for a long period had no second pair, and consequently no opportunity of changing them, when saturated with the snow and wet, or torn by the bushes. They would be far more serviceable if made to fit close to the lower part of the leg, so that they might be adapted for insertion into a

leathern gaiter, worn over the ammunition boots now issued, or into long boots, as worn by the Russian soldiers, and also by our own, during the latter part of the first winter's campaign. As it is most desirable, however, that the soldier's kit should always contain a change of every article of dress, perhaps the present low boots, worn with gaiters, would be more convenient, and, if well made, quite as great a protection from wet as the long boots, a second pair of which would be cumbersome, and impossible to carry in the knapsack. The same remarks respecting the change from cotton to flannel shirts during the winter months, would, of course, apply to the drawers, which are manifestly better long than short, so as to tie or fit over the sock ; but the men are not, unfortunately, at present compelled by regulation to wear any drawers whatever, which appears to be an error.

*Shelter.*—Upon this subject no remarks will be offered respecting the huts, as they can hardly be considered part of the requirements of an Army in the field ; but as regards the canvas tents issued to the Battalion, during the Crimean war, it was the opinion of the Surgeon, and often expressed both in private and official communications, that from the insufficient shelter afforded by them, alike from the penetrating rays of the sun, and from the extreme wet and cold, they not only predisposed to disease, but contributed very much to aggravate it, when the sick were treated under them ; they should have been double, or lined with cotton, and better contrived at the top for free ventilation ; and with a view to prevent the emission by the covered

earth of animal, effluvia which may have been absorbed by it, after a lengthened encampment, it would be very desirable never to re-erect the tents over the same surface, but to select some fresh ground for the purpose ; the sickly smell which emanates from ground which has been long covered by tents, was often noticed, and is almost proverbial. The system of excavating the floor of the tents below the level on which they stand, is still less in accordance with correct sanitary views ; for the occupants are then invariably doomed to breathe vitiated air, which, from being surcharged with deleterious gases, sinks to the bottom thus constituting a persistent poisonous atmosphere, which the men, when lying down to sleep, must breathe ; although the superincumbent portion of the contained air may be perfectly pure, and freely interchanged with that outside by raising the base of the tents. A means of escape for the foul atmosphere was sometimes contrived by constructing a fire-place close to the floor, with an underground chimney leading outside. The floor should be boarded over, if possible, when the position is occupied for any lengthened period.

These ideas, with reference to the injurious effects of living thus partially underground, are fully substantiated by the large amount of intermittent fevers which affected the Sardinian army, hutted on the plain of Balaklava, who adopted this objectionable system for some time, and the same morbid effects resulted to the native Tatars, whose habitations are quite covered, and often concealed, by a thick stratum of earth.

*Cooking.*—This must of necessity be reduced to a

simple form on active service ; but even then, as also in Barracks at home, the system pursued requires great improvement before it becomes as beneficial to the men as Commanding Officers desire ; and without venturing to suggest any definite alterations, it must be evident that food cooked invariably in one particular way, must become in time distasteful, and, consequently, less nutritious, than if occasionally prepared in a different manner.

The cooking in Bulgaria was tolerably well performed ; but during the severe part of the Crimean campaign it completely failed, on account of the impossibility of detaching the requisite number of men from the ranks to attend to it ; this, however, was subsequently done, and with the best results ; but, even then, there was abundant reason for knowing that great advantage would have accrued to the men, if a certain proportion of every regiment had been regularly taught, after enlistment, a regular system of cookery ; and also how to avail themselves of the different resources which they would be likely to find at hand, on active service.

When salt provisions are issued, it would be very desirable that they should be soaked in water some few hours prior to being boiled. The system of field cooking taught by M. Soyer was very efficient, and to him many Surgeons are indebted for practical hints respecting their sick dietary, and the method of rendering it as palatable as possible.

*Transport.*—The early failure of this great requisite in any campaign was the chief cause of the large

mortality in the English army, during the first winter campaign, from the impossibility of sending away the men at a time when the change would have been beneficial to them, and also while they were able to bear the removal with safety. Transport was often applied for, when it was manifest that the maladies of those intended to be removed were not of that kind to promise any speedy return to duty ; and when, at some future period, the transport did arrive, many of the men were not in a condition, on account of the delay, to bear the journey down to Balaklava.

The ambulance system as first arranged, was an utter failure. The machines called carts, were cumbersome in the extreme during fine weather ; while, during the winter season, and as soon as the roads became heavy, they could not be made available. They at all times required many mules to drag them along, and the inconvenience complained of by those whose bad fortune it was to require removal by their agency, was great indeed. It is to be regretted that the inventor of these " vans " had not taken an inside place in them, for a short distance down-hill, before recommending them for the conveyance of wounded soldiers.

It is questionable if wheeled transports, for the service of the sick, could not, with advantage, be entirely dispensed with, and the system pursued in the French army substituted, the animals being available for commissariat purposes, when not required for the conveyance of the sick and wounded. Both officers and men who were removed from camp by the French

litières and cacolets, appreciated the ease and comparative comfort derived from them.

Upon mature consideration of all the circumstances connected with the Battalion's service in the East, it seems hardly possible to resist the conclusion, that the mortality from disease and wounds, although great, would have been much diminished had no secondary Hospitals, as at Scutari, existed ; and had the exigencies of the service permitted the employment of a succession of Hospital Ships, for the purpose of conveying the men direct to England, after a certain period of sojourn in temporary Hospitals established in the Crimea.

The medical experience of the war prompts the recommendation of the exclusive employment of four animals for the transport service of each Battalion Hospital in the field ; which, on the line of march ought to carry, besides the panniers (which should be convertible into an operating table), at least two bell-tents, the absence of which was so often and so severely experienced, also at least four of the portable cork mattresses ; and besides the panniers for the conveyance of the instruments and medicines, &c., there should be two others for the purpose of holding prepared soups, wine, and other medical comforts for extemporaneous use, one of the most useful of which is the newly-invented prepared egg-powder, applicable to all the purposes for which the fresh egg is employed, and forming a most efficient substitute. It was extensively used in the Hospital of the Coldstream Guards, having been generously distributed to several Medical Officers of the army by the Assistant-Adjutant-

General of the 1st Division.\* The French and Sardinian surgeons were also supplied with a portion, who all alike testified their opinion in favour of the preparation, as an admirable adjunct to the supplies for Field Hospitals : and it is much to be hoped that it will hereafter form a part of the medical comforts for the field.

The want of means of ablution and personal cleanliness, was much felt, and it is devoutly to be hoped that the subject of efficient baths and wash-houses, will receive the earnest attention of those responsible for the health of the troops, and the efficient state of the barracks in the United Kingdom ; also that the soldiers may possess hereafter the same advantages in these particulars, as the lower orders enjoy in all large towns, and which are considered so essential in the construction of every workhouse and even prison.

The author cannot with justice to the dictates of his own conscience, refrain from placing on record the very great practical advantage which he has individually derived in the treatment of the sick on service, from the sound and original views on the principles of the treatment of Fever, enunciated in a small work by that distinguished Irish physician, Dr. Corrigan, who from long experience, has evidently made this most important subject entirely his own. It is to be regretted that his ideas were not more freely promulgated, as their value will be fully acknowledged by every military surgeon acquainted with them, and by none more than by some of the French, who, during the epidemic of Low Fever,

\* Lieut.-Col. Lord Arthur Hay.



which so decimated their army during the second winter's campaign, recognized the soundness of the precepts by their practice, and this they were enabled to do, with the greatest benefit to their sick, by a timely and liberal present of a large quantity of port wine, made to them on that occasion, by that queen of nurses, Miss Nightingale. Dr. Corrigan's publication should certainly form part of the portable library of every young military surgeon.

It only now remains to notice the effects which the campaign in the East had upon the constitutions of those who took any lengthened part in it, for independently of the visible symptoms of disease displayed while in the Crimea, (which have been previously more fully particularized) there was a latent and insidious, though remote effect then engendered, which did not develope itself for some months after returning home, and was then evidenced by a premature appearance of age, in many cases associated with very imperfect digestion, by irregular attacks of Ague and Rheumatism; or by symptoms of Scurvy, which in some instances affected men, for the first time, who had served with the Battalion during the entire period of service, without then displaying any evidence of this diseased action.\* Many men are now quite intolerant of efforts which they could before the campaign make with impunity: they lived out (so to speak) possibly double the time they actually passed abroad; and they have become constitutionally

\* The Author of this Report suffered severely from scurvy, which first displayed itself when quartered at the Tower of London, eight months after returning from the East.

older, with their vital powers diminished. And if they should happen to have been predisposed to disease of any particular organ, the progress of which in many cases was quite arrested while on service, the diseased action seems, since returning to England, to have acquired renewed vigour. This remark is especially applicable to all forms of pulmonary complaints.

With these concluding remarks, this sketch of the history of the 1st Battalion of Coldstream Guards in the East terminates. It may contain imperfections, but, it is believed, no inaccuracies, which have been most carefully avoided by constant references for corroborative testimony, on points not strictly coming within the author's sphere of observation. He has expressed his convictions with freedom, because they have been founded on fact, but he trusts, not with too great presumption. Being unconscious of having evaded any part of the responsibilities of his anxious position, he claims the privilege of recording an unbiassed opinion ; and if in any way hereafter it may be conducive to the welfare of the men, he will derive all the satisfaction he can desire, ever remembering that it was his good fortune, under the Divine protection, to have been one of three officers of the Battalion, who served throughout a prolonged campaign, with those, who, by their patient endurance of untold hardships, their chivalrous devotion to discipline, and their undaunted bravery before the enemy, have so nobly perpetuated the application of the glorious motto of their Regiment, "*nulli secundus*."

THE END.

No. Strength actually present  
 per Cent. of the cases which  
 in present, the percentage  
 Disease, and from Wounds

Percentage of Admissions from the  
 Causes of Disease and Wounds to the  
 Admissions for the Periods.

Dysentery.	Diarrhoea.	Cholera.	Gelatio.	Scorbutus.	Wounds in Action.
—	6.2	—	—	—	—
0.4	32.7	5.1	—	—	—
2.0	50.3	7.3	—	—	7.5
1.9	42.9	4.9	4.9	5.3	18.9
—	45.6	—	0.7	5.6	0.4
3.6	48.2	0.8	2.1	0.6	9.7
3.8	11.7	—	0.5	0.5	—
1.7	39.8	4.0	1.8	2.2	7.8

elsewhere after transfer) to the



# NAMES OF OFFICERS WHO SERVED IN THE FIRST BATTALION COLDSTREAM GUARDS DURING THE EASTERN CAMPAIGN.

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This mark (\*) indicates those who embarked with the Battalion from  
England, on the 22nd February, 1854.

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\*Major General Sir H. BENTINCK, K.C.B. (late commanding the Brigade of  
Guards.)

\* " " Hay.

\*Lieut. General Sir W. CODRINGTON, K.C.B. (late Commander of the Forces  
in the Crimea.)

Colonel the Honble. GEORGE UPTON, C.B.

\* " GORDON DRUMMOND, died November 17th, 1856.

" Lord FREDERICK PAULET, C.B.

" The Honble. W. BOYLE, died September 2nd, 1854.

" TREVELYAN, died August 21st, 1854.

\* " NEWTON.

" DANIELL, *retired*.

" PERCEVAL.

\*Lieut. Col. TIERNEY, *retired*.

\* " " CROMBIE, *retired*.

\* " " The Honble. V. DAWSON, killed in action, Nov. 5th, 1854.

\* " " CUMMING, *retired*.

" " MARK WOOD.

\* " " C. COCKS.

" " HALKETT.

\* " " COWELL, mortally wounded in action, Nov. 5th, 1854.

\* " " MACKINNON, died after amputation at the hip joint.

" " DUDLEY CARLETON.

Lieut. Col. Lord CHAS. FITZROY, *retired*.

- " " STEPHNEY, C.B. (late 29th Regiment.)
- " " S. BURDETT.
- " " F. W. NEWDIGATE.
- \* " " WILSON, *retired*.
- " " Lord DUNKELLIN.
- " " W. G. DAWKINS (joined the Battalion at Malta.)
- " " C. W. STRONG.
- \* " " The Honble. A. HARDINGE, C.B.
- \* " " The Honble. P. B. FEILDING, *severely wounded* in action,  
Nov. 5th, 1854.
- " " P. BURTON, *retired*.
- " " W. H. REEVE.
- " " CHAS. BARING, *severely wounded* in action, Nov. 5th, 1854 (joined  
the Battalion at Malta).
- \* " " The Honble. HENRY BYNG.
- " " J. H. le COUTEUR.

\*Major ARMITAGE.

- \* " THELLUSON.
- \* " CRAWLEY.
- \* " Sir JAS. DUNLOP, Bart., *died* Feb. 10th, 1858.
- \* " G. S. GOODLAKE, V.C.
- \* " Lord BINGHAM.

\*Captain JOLLIFE, *died* Oct. 4th, 1854.

- " BOUVERIE, *killed* in action, Nov. 5th, 1854.
- \* " The Honble. G. ELIOT, do.
- \* " CUST *died* of wounds Sept. 20th, 1854.
- \* " RAMSDEN, *mortally wounded* in action, Nov. 5th, 1854.
- " TOWER (joined the Battalion at Soutari.)
- " Viscount DANGAN.
- \* " The Honble. H. DRUMMOND *died* Oct. 2nd, 1855.
- " FREEMANTLE.
- " DISBROWE, *mortally wounded* in action, Nov. 5th, 1854.
- " The Honble. W. FEILDING (late 62nd Regiment.)
- " MICHAEL HENRAGE.
- " Lord E. H. CEOLL (late 43rd Regiment.)
- " CHRIST. BLACKETT, Instructor of Musketry (late 93rd Highlanders.)
- " GEO. FITZROY (late 41st Regiment.)
- " JAMES A. CAULFIELD, *retired* (late 17th Regiment.)
- " W. Viscount HOLMESDALE, *severely wounded* in action, Nov. 5th, 1854.
- " H. C. JERVOISE (late 42nd Highlanders.)
- " MARKHAM, *retired* (late Rifle Brigade.)

Captain ROSE, exchanged to Rifle Brigade.

- „ WHITSHED.
- „ JULIAN HALL.
- „ GODFREY WIGHAM.
- „ ARTHUR LAMBTON.
- „ The Honble. W. EDWARDES.

Lieut. WINDHAM, *retired*.

- „ GREVILLE, killed in action, November 5th, 1854.
- „ IVES, *retired*.
- „ Sir W. FORBES, Bart., *retired*.
- „ C. LANE FOX, *retired*.
- „ LANE.
- „ ADAIR.
- „ F. W. SEYMOUR.
- „ S. T. MAINWARING.
- „ The Honble. E. LEGGE.

\*Quarter Master FALCONER.

\*Battalion Surgeon SKELTON, died April 8th, 1857.

\*Assistant Surgeon WILDBORE, *retired*.

- \* „ „ WYATT, now Battalion Surgeon.
- „ „ C. V. CAY.
- „ „ J. W. TROTTER.
- „ „ T. S. ROGERS, *retired*.
- „ „ F. BOWEN.



In Memory of  
The  
12 Officers and 699 Men,  
Of the  
First Battalion Coldstream Guards,  
Who lost their Lives during the War.

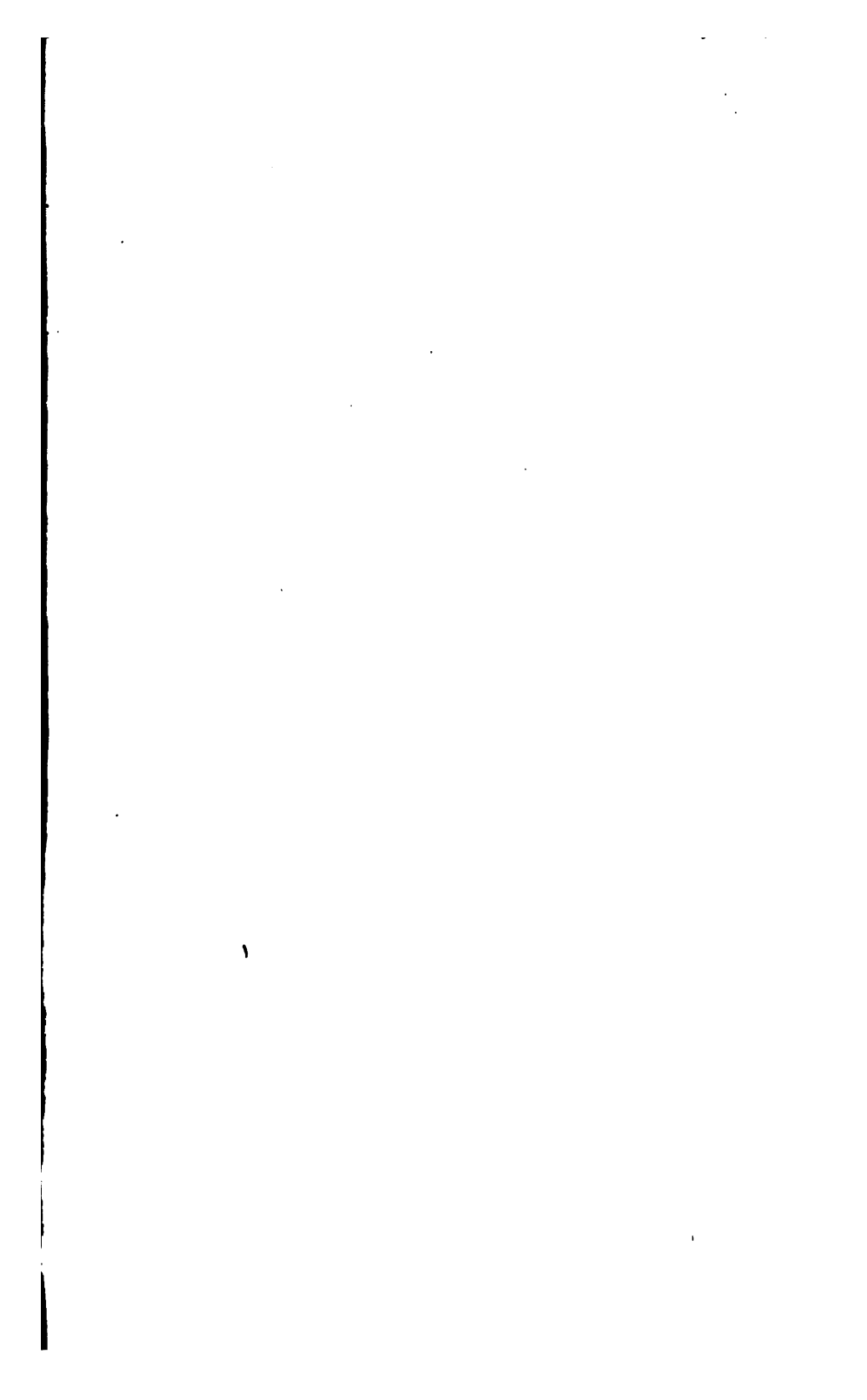
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"VIVERE SAT, VINCERE."

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